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rals and miniſters in their late war with Ruſſia, an enquiry into their conduct was ſet on foot; and the popular reſentment was ſo high againſt Lewenhaupt, that he was beheaded merely to ſtill the clamour of the people and ſenate, as was lieutenant general Badenbroke, againſt not only all juſtice but all evidence. The conferences at Abo, in which the peace between Ruſſia and Sweden was reſtored, were a great meaſure owing to his Britannic majeſty's good offices; but the court of France, ever ſtudious to embroil the princes of the North, endeavoured once more to throw them into confuſion. His Daniſh majeſty had been brought to refuſe the renewal of the ſubſidiary treaty with Great Britain, and to conclude one with France. This laſt power ſuggeſted to him, that two princes of the houſe of Holſtein being now declared ſucceſſors to two monarchies, it was more than probable that he might be diſturbed in his poſſeſſion of the dutchy of Sleſwick; and the French miniſter urged ſo much on that head, that the king of Denmark made great preparations, both by ſea and land, to ſupport the election of his ſon to the ſucceſſion of Sweden. He was favoured by an inſurrection of the Dalecarlians, the moſt warlike people in Sweden, in favour of the prince of Denmark, who was beloved by the commonalty all over the kingdom.

Geo. II. 1743.

The late government of Ruſſia being in the hands of Germans, had been in a great meaſure overturned by the intrigues of Le Chetardie, the French ambaſſador, on account of its attachment to the houſe of Auſtria. The queen of Hungary, therefore, could not help intereſting herſelf in the fate of the princeſs Anne, late regent of Ruſſia, the prince of Brunſwick her huſband, and their children, then confined in Fort Dundamond by order of the court of Peterſburgh. She gave orders to the marquis de Botta, her miniſter there, to do all he could with the empreſs to obtain their liberty. The French agents about the perſon of the empreſs had addreſs enough to inſinuate to her, that de Botta wanted not only the deliverance, but the reſtoration, of the priſoners. This inſinuation received ſome colour from a plot that was diſcovered, or pretended to be diſcovered, at the ſame time, in favour of the exiled family; and ſome women and other perſons who had been puniſhed for the ſame, had named the marquis de Botta as the fomenter of it. De Botta, who appears to have been innocent, denied the charge, and inſiſted upon his being recalled, that he might be put upon his trial. His miſtreſs took his part, and the empreſs of Ruſſia was angry

Affairs of Ruſſia.

Geo. II. 1743. angry that the court of Vienna ſhould doubt of her accuſation, and ſhould not puniſh de Botta without farther trial.

In the mean while, the French, having now loſt all influence with the people of Sweden, though they ſtill retained it with ſome of the nobility, prevailed with the king of Denmark to declare by his miniſter at Stockholm, that he had no hand in the Dalecarlian inſurrection; but his other miniſters at the ſame time declared to count Teſſin, the Swediſh ambaſſador at Copenhagen, that he did not look upon the election of the biſhop of Lubeck as ſucceſſor to the crown of Sweden to be valid, becauſe he thought his own ſon had been legally called to the ſame, and that he was reſolved to ſupport his pretenſions. The empreſs of Ruſſia, upon this declaration, was generous enough to ſupport the treaty that had been concluded at Abo, by ordering general Keith to march at the head of 12,000 troops to the aſſiſtance of the Swedes, if they ſhould be attacked by the king of Denmark. The latter, however, had no ſuch deſign. All he wanted was to be ſecured in the uninterrupted poſſeſſion of the dutchy of Sleſwick, which had been overlooked in the late conferences at Abo, by a perpetual renunciation of the ſame by the two princes ſucceſſors. Count Teſſin offered him all the ſatisfaction on that head that Sweden could give; but ſaid, he could not anſwer for the court of Peterſburgh.

Princeſs Louiſa of England married to the prince royal of Denmark.

Though this aſſurance did not ſatisfy at that time the crown of Denmark, yet the interpoſition and perſuaſions of his Britannic majeſty, who had an evident intereſt in ſupporting the crown of Denmark in the poſſeſſion of the dutchy in queſtion, not only prevailed with his Daniſh majeſty to lay aſide all his armaments, but to agree to a marriage between the prince-royal his ſon, and the princeſs Louiſa of England, the youngeſt daughter of his Britannic majeſty. That princeſs had left London on the 19th of October this year, attended by the counteſs of Albemarle and baron Solenthal, the Daniſh envoy, and arrived on the 29th at Hanover. From thence ſhe went to Altena on the 17th of November, where ſhe was met by the prince royal, and married; and on the 11th of December they made their public entry into Copenhagen. It was ſaid, that a croſs marriage between the ſame families was propoſed at the ſame time; but though the news came from Copenhagen, it is certain that it did not take place.

The naval tranſactions of this year, ſo far as they regard the operations of his majeſty's fleets, do more honour to the courage than the conduct of the officers. Admiral Matthews, ſtil

ſtill continued to watch the combined fleets of France and Spain off the harbour of Toulon, and by turns to treat with, and intimidate, the Genoeſe. His particular cruiſers, however, did great damage to the coaſts of the enemy, and took many of their richeſt ſhips. The Spaniſh court being alarmed at the ſtate of affairs in Italy, and that the queen of Hungary, aſſiſted by the maritime power of England, might attempt the conqueſt of Naples, now preſſed the court of France to put every thing to the ſtake, ſo as to ſet Navarro, the Spaniſh admiral, and his fleet, at liberty. As the French were then fully determined upon an open rupture with England, it was agreed between them and the Spaniards, that De Court, the French admiral, who was blocked up with Navarro in Toulon, ſhould be joined by the French ſhips which were now building, or fitting out, in that harbour; and that, in the mean while, a ſquadron ſhould be equipped at Breſt, to intercept the reinforcement which they knew Matthews had both written for and wanted; and that at the ſame time, the combined fleets ſhould come out of Toulon, and fight Matthews. He more than ſuſpected this to be their intention, from the intelligence he had of their motions, and the letters he had intercepted. His ſhips had been long at ſea, and were ſo foul, that numbers of them were perpetually careening at Minorca; and he ſent repeated advice to the admiralty, that he apprehended he would be too weak, if attacked by the combined fleets. Such was the ſtate of the Engliſh naval affairs in the Mediterranean, at the cloſe of the year 1743.

Geo. II. 1743.

Conduct of the French and Spaniards in the Mediterranean.

In America, they were more melancholy. Sir Chaloner Ogle, who had been left there in the double capacity of admiral of the fleet and commander of the land forces on board it, was awed by the neighbourhood of de Torres, the Spaniſh admiral, who ſtill continued with a ſquadron ſtronger than that he commanded, at the Havannah. De Torres, on the other hand, had nothing in commiſſion but to defend Cuba and Vera Cruz. As his lying ſo long at the Havannah manifeſted this to be his intention, Ogle, though not naturally adventurous, gave ear to a propoſal of an attack upon La Guira and Porto Cavallo on the coaſts of the Carraccas, where an attempt had been made by the Engliſh ſince the commencement of the war, and had miſcarried. It was ſaid by many, that Waterhouſe, who had commanded the laſt attack, had not done his duty, and that an officer of greater abilities, and commanding a larger force, would infallibly ſucceed in taking both places.

Proceedings of the Britiſh fleet in America under ſir Chaloner Ogle.

See vol. xx. p. 440.

Geo. II. 1743-4. Captain Knowles, who then commanded the Suffolk, a 70 gun ſhip, was pitched upon for that purpoſe, and obtained the command of the Burford of 70 guns, the Aſſiſtance, Norwich, and Advice, of 50 guns each, the Scarborough of 20 guns, and three ſloops. His orders were to proceed to Antigoa, where he was joined by the Eltham of 40, and the Lively of 20 guns. On board of thoſe ſhips he had 2,300 ſailors and marines, and 400 of Dalzel's regiment. It is ſaid, not without ſome appearance of truth, that the ſecret of this intended expedition was ſo ill kept, that the governor of the Caraccas had intelligence of it two months before the fleet ſailed; and had prepared againſt it by augmenting and reinforcing the fortifications of both places, and providing from the governor of the Dutch iſland of Curacoa a large quantity of ammunition.

It was the 18th of February before commodore Knowles came before La Guira. According to the accounts ſent home to the government, the commodore did his duty to admiration. The attack began about twelve at noon; but the ſhips not getting nearer than a mile to the town, the ſoldiers could not land. It is remarked in the account publiſhed, that the Spaniſh flag was ſhot down, but ſoon hoiſted again; that conſiderable breaches were made in the fortifications; that the churches were demoliſhed, and many of their houſes deſtroyed. An attempt was made by manning ſome boats to cut out three ſhips which were in the harbour, or to ſet them on fire; but this ſcheme miſcarried. The Spaniſh magazine, however, according to the ſame account, blew up, and the attack continued till near eight at night. Be this as it will, it is certain that the attempt miſcarried; that the ſhips received prodigious damage, and that captain Luſhington, who commanded the Burford, one of the beſt officers in the navy, loſt his life in the attack, and that the Engliſh ſhips were obliged to go to Curacoa to refit; and notwithſtanding the pompous accounts publiſhed in England, the Spaniards pretended their loſs was next to nothing, and that the expedition was in itſelf ridiculous.

Commodore Knowles, however, not diſcouraged by this repulſe, refitted his ſquadron at Curacoa, where he was joined by ſome Dutch volunteers, who had been provoked by the injuſtice of the Spaniards towards them, and ſailed on the 20th of March from Curacoa to attack Porto Cavallo; but it was the 15th of April before he could reach Barburat, which lies a little to the eaſtward of Porto Cavallo, and where his ſquadron came to an anchor. The commodore examined

examined the apparent ſtrength of the place. He ſaw two large ſhips, one of 60 and another of 40 guns, in the deep water of the harbour, and about twelve ſmall ſhips and three gallies hauled aſhore, while another ſhip was laid acroſs the channel in the mouth of the harbour, ready to be ſunk, to prevent their entering, with a chain from the caſtle to her ſtern, and another from her head to the main. There were three faſcine batteries, which extended a conſiderable length, and had been lately made. On a low point, called Ponta Brava, were two other faſcine batteries, one of twelve, the other of ſeven guns, which the commodore was in hopes not only to maſter, but to turn againſt the caſtle. Next morning it was reſolved to ſend in two ſhips in the afternoon to cannonade the batteries, and to land the volunteers, with about 400 ſeamen, the detachment from Dalziel's regiment, all the marines and the Dutch volunteers, to take poſſeſſion of thoſe faſcine batteries, the commodore, it ſeems, not at all doubting of the ſhips being able to ſilence them, which in fact they did by ſun-ſet. The detachment who landed conſiſted of no fewer than 1200 men, and they were attended by the commodore in his boat. But an unfortunate gun fired by a ſingle centinel from one of the faſcine batteries, as they attempted to ſeize it, unaccountably threw the whole detachment into a pannic, which was, by the firing of two other guns from the faſcine batteries, improved to a total rout; and to compleat their ſhame and diſorder, they fired upon one another as if they had been the enemy, and continued their flight without ſtopping till they regained their ſhips. To repair this miſcarriage, however, a general attack was made next day upon the place and batteries by all the ſhips and forces, which proceeded with great alacrity, ſucceſs and execution upon the enemy, and ended in a retreat and a reſolution to make no farther attempt, but to get again under the keys of Barbarat to refit. Upon this the commodore, having firſt ſettled a cartel for the exchange of priſoners, ſent the large ſhips to their ſeveral ſtations, and returned himſelf to Jamaica. Little more can be related of the naval operations of this year, but that ſir John Norris, in the ſummer, commanded a ſquadron of obſervation in the channel, but without coming to any action. A conſiderable promotion of ſea-officers likewiſe happened this year, by the death of ſir Charles Wager, admiral of the White, and Philip Cavendiſh, eſq; admiral of the Blue; ſir John Norris was made admiral of the Red; John Balchen, eſq; admiral of the White; Matthews, vice-admiral of the Red; Haddock, vice-admiral

Geo. II. 1744. Gazette. Ibid. ineffectual. Promotions of the navy in England.

Geo. II. 1744. admiral of the White; ſir Chaloner Ogle, vice-admiral of the Blue; James Stewart, rear-admiral of the Red; Richard Lestock, eſq; rear-admiral of the White, and ſir Charles Hardy, rear-admiral of the Blue.

Obſervation on the captures bill.

Little material concerning the internal ſtate of England occurred this year. It muſt be acknowledged, that the bill for veſting the property of all captures in the captors, was far from anſwering the purpoſes of the legiſlature. The enemy indeed loſt many rich prizes; but the avidity of the captains of Britiſh ſhips and privateers was ſuch, that they were at very little pains to protect the trade of their country, or to endeavour to root out the privateers of the enemy, who took great numbers of Britiſh ſhips. Add to this, that many brave officers having enriched themſelves by the ſpoils of the enemy, were ever after loſt to their country, by not chuſing again to go to ſea.

Addreſs of the city of London to the king.

This year the royal family received another addition of ſtrength, by the birth of a young prince to his royal highneſs the prince of Wales. He was born November the 14th, and was chriſtned by the name of William Henry. Upon his majeſty's return to England, November 15, the city of London congratulated him in an addreſs upon the birth of the young prince, and upon the marriage of the princeſs Louiſa. It was thought both indecent and unprecedented to omit in their addreſs all mention of the victory at Dettingen. But the majority ſeemed to agree with thoſe who called it no more than a lucky eſcape, without conſidering that his majeſty was, in no reſpect, the occaſion of the diſagreeable ſituation in which he found his army, and that it was owing to his perſonal conduct and courage that it was delivered out of it. With the ſame ſpirit of oppoſition they again ſet aſide ſir George Champion from being lord mayor, and preſented admiral Vernon with his freedom in a gold box, for retrieving the honour of the Britiſh flag.

Queſtion amongſt the proprietors of the South-Sea company relating to Mr. Knight,

A great conteſt this year happened amongſt the proprietors of the South-Sea company, on account of the famous Mr. Knight, who having been their caſhier in the fatal year 1720, had lived in France ever ſince a kind of an exile. His generoſity, his humanity and good offices to his countrymen abroad, his being untainted with any ſuſpicion of diſloyalty, and the circumſtances that appeared in his favour when he went off, had already procured him his pardon from the crown, and he offered the company 10,000l. by way of compoſition for all their claims againſt him. As his offer was known to be agreeable to the government, great intereſt was made with the

the proprietors to reject it, and a vaſt number of papers flew about on that head. Upon a ballot, however, the offer of Mr. Knight was accepted by a majority of 410 againſt 257. Geo. II. 1744.

Carried on a ballot.

On the 1ſt of December the parliament, after ſeveral prorogations, reſum'd its ſeſſion; the king in his ſpeech told the members, that the dominions of the queen of Hungary had been evacuated by her enemies, and that the powerful armies which had marched to her aſſiſtance, had been obliged to retire out of the empire. "In this conjuncture, ſaid his majeſty, it is a great ſatisfaction to me to acquaint you, that I have been joined by a body of troops of my good friends and allies the States General. In further proſecution of theſe meaſures, the definitive treaty between me, the queen of Hungary, and the king of Sardinia, has been happily concluded, which ſhall be laid before you. The advantages which cannot fail to reſult from this alliance to the common cauſe, are apparent; and it will be particularly conducive to the intereſts of my kingdoms, by diſappointing the ambitious views of the crown of Spain, with which we are engaged in ſo juſt and neceſſary a war. As I make no doubt but you will proceed upon theſe foundations with firmneſs and conſtancy, we may reaſonably hope to ſee the public tranquillity re-eſtabliſhed, and a general and honourable peace obtained. Theſe are my views, to which my utmoſt attention and reſolution ſhall not be wanting: but in order to bring about theſe great ends, meaſures of vigour are neceſſary; and to enable me to carry on and concert ſuch meaſures, I do with a juſt confidence rely on your zealous, chearful, and effectual ſupport. The marriage of my youngeſt daughter with the prince royal of Denmark, cannot but give ſatisfaction to all my good ſubjects, as it tends to cement and ſtrengthen the proteſtant intereſt of Europe."

Parliament meets.

King's ſpeech.

A dutiful addreſs was moved for in the houſe of commons by Mr. Coke, ſon to lord Lovel, and ſeconded by Mr. Yorke, ſon to the lord Harwick; but it was oppoſed with a ſpirit that threatned diſſolution to the conſtitution. A ſet of intelligence was procured, throwing the conduct of the miniſter into the moſt odious light, and inſtances of partiality and preference ſhewn to Hanoverians in diſgrace to the Britiſh troops were trumped up, and received countenance from ſome of the greateſt men in the nation. Lord Stairs himſelf did not openly avow any charges of that kind, but amongſt his private friends he complained bitterly of his hands being tied up by the caution of the Hanoverian generals, who never failed to outvote him in the councils of war. His ſentiments were

Great debates about the Hanoverian troops revived.

Geo. II. 1744. were propagated with great industry, and the duke of Marlborough more openly espousing the same charge, accused the Hanoverians not only of insolence, but of disobedience to the British general's orders, and of keeping out of the way, both of danger and service, at the battle of Dettingen; and some young officers of rank and quality attended to have been examined, if necessary, touching the behaviour of the Hanoverians.

It was not in the motions for the addresses only that those charges were thrown out; for they recurred at every debate, and were urged with so much confidence, that an Hanoverian became a word of disgrace all over the nation. The minister, however, vindicated, upon all occasions, both the conduct and the behaviour of his royal master; and when the charges came to be candidly considered, they were generally found to be either immaterial or ill founded. Many real friends of his majesty thought, however, that there had been some failure of respect on the part of the Hanoverians, and were sorry that the clamour against them had been suffered to come to so great a head. The party against the minister, though not more numerous, were more united, and more determined than any that had been formed since the accession of the present family to the throne. Great complaints were made of the inequality of some chief officers of state to their places; and a general dissatisfaction prevailed at too much power being engrossed by one man. In short, the complexion of the times was threatning. Lord Gower resigned the privy seal, and great debates arose about his successor. The earl of Carlisle earnestly desired to be appointed, and thought himself so sure of being so, that he absurdly suffered himself to be complimented as if the seal had been already in his custody. It was given, however, to the earl of Cholmondley.

Changes at court.

But much greater difficulties arose about supporting the public credit. The clamour that had been raised against foreign measures and connections daily gained ground, and many of the leading monied men began to be uneasy at the vast sums bestowed amongst foreigners. Lord Wilmington had been placed at the head of the treasury, merely because he had of late discovered no attachment to any party. But he was old and indolent, and unequal to the post, and he had been for some time dead. It was plain that public credit must [illegible] in the most imminent danger, and could only be supported by a minister who could recover the confidence of the people to the measures of the government. But as this could not

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not be done but by raiſing ſuch a miniſter above the danger of being controuled in the meaſures he might purſue for the benefit of public credit, his majeſty was pleaſed again to unite in the perſon of the right honourable Henry Pelham, eſq; the two high departments of firſt lord of the treaſury, and chancellor of the exchequer; and Mr. Sandys was made a peer of Great Britain. Mr. Pelham was ſucceeded as paymaſter by Mr. Winnington. Lord Middleſex, eldeſt ſon to the duke of Dorſet, was appointed one of the commiſſioners of the treaſury, and Henry Fox, eſq; another. Sir John Ruſhout was made treaſurer of the navy; general Wade was raiſed to the rank of field marſhal, and placed at the head of the army, and ſeveral promotions in the navy took place likewiſe. Geo. II. 1744. Mr. Pelham put at the head of the treaſury.

On the ſeventh day of the ſeſſion it was moved in the committee of ſupply, by way of amendment to the land-tax bill, "To lay a duty of eight ſhillings in the pound on all places and penſions." Though perhaps it never was imagined that this motion was to take place, yet it ſubjected the new modelled miniſtry to ſome raillery, and it was introduced with that air. The thing, however, became more ſerious, and the act of the 29th and 30th of king Charles II. was quoted, by which, for the carrying on the war vigorouſly againſt France, one ſhilling in the pound was laid upon perſonal eſtates, two ſhillings upon places, and three upon penſions. The queſtion was oppoſed by Mr. Pelham and ſir William Yonge and others, and thrown out, but not without ſome very ſevere things being ſaid of the new coalition. Motion for taxing places and penſions.

Two days after, December 19, the earl of Sandwich, in the houſe of peers, moved, "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to give orders, that the 16,000 Hanoverians then in the pay of Great Britain, be no longer continued in the ſervice of the nation after the 25th of that inſtant December, thereby to put a ſtop to the jealouſies and heart-burnings among his majeſty's faithful ſubjects at home, and his Britiſh forces abroad." Motion againſt the Hanoverians.

This motion bore a long and a violent debate, and the facts upon which it was founded were advanced with the ſame aſſurance as if all of them had been judicially proved. Inſtances of diſobedience, inſolence, and cowardice among the Hanoverians were multiplied. At the battle of Dettingen they were ſaid to be not in the poſt of danger but of ſafety; and the moſt invidious acts of partiality in their favour were mentioned. Lord Carteret, however, who was at the battle, repelled all thoſe charges with great vigour, nor indeed did

Geo. II. 1744.

one of them appear to be well founded. From all, ſaid his lordſhip, I could ſee, and from all I could hear from gentlemen who were preſent in the action, they ſhewed as much true courage, and as much obedience to the commands of their ſuperior officers, as any troops ever did; from whence I infer, that they could do as much ſervice as any troops whatever, and that they were willing to do us ſervice, is evident from their being always ready to march whereſoever they were commanded by our generals. It is a miſtake, my lords, continued he, to ſay, that the Hanoverian troops durſt not fight againſt the emperor, becauſe he was their ſovereign, and elected with the concurrence of their maſter. The emperor neither began, nor does he now carry on, any war againſt the queen of Hungary as emperor. He is engaged in war with her only as duke of Bavaria, and conſequently the members of the empire may aſſiſt either the one or the other, without committing a breach of any law of the empire. If our army did not attack the French, it was not owing to any backwardneſs in the Hanoverians, but to our not having an opportunity to attack them with any advantage. Beſides, common prudence, and the regard we were obliged to ſhew to the ſentiments of ſome of the neutral powers of Europe, made it neceſſary for us rather to wait for than begin the attack."

They are defended by lord Carteret.

In another paſſage of the ſame celebrated ſpeech he obſerved, "That the noble lord (meaning the earl of Stair) who had the chief command under his majeſty of all the Britiſh troops, as well as the troops in Britiſh pay, is well known to moſt of your lordſhips, and every one that knows him muſt be convinced that he would not have ſubmitted tamely to ſuch an affront as that of a diſobedience to his commands. If he had reſented it, or if he had complained, I ſhould certainly have heard of it in the army; and as I never did, I muſt ſuppoſe there never was the leaſt occaſion for any ſuch complaints."

It is doing no more than common juſtice to tranſcribe the above paſſages, which were the ſole arguments advanced in favour of the Hanoverians, in oppoſition to thouſands of papers and pamphlets publiſhed againſt them, and which in the main deſtroyed, in the breaſt of every candid hearer, the credibility of all the atrocious charges that had with ſo much aſſurance been urged againſt them. A great number of other lords ſpoke both for and againſt the motion, the ſubſtance of whoſe arguments have been already given in the complex

view

view of the debate laſt ſeſſion (for it was upon the main the ſame) and ſhall not be here repeated. Upon a diviſion, the queſtion was rejected by a majority of 71 againſt 36 peers. But the rejection of the queſtion was attended with a very ſtinging proteſt, ſigned by about 25 peers. Geo. II. 1744. See vol. xx. p. 591.

The oppoſition in the houſe of commons went hand in hand with that in the houſe of peers. Edmund Waller, eſq; a gentleman of great weight with the party, after a long and laboured deduction of facts, in which he had a great talent, concluded his ſpeech with moving, "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, that he will be graciouſly pleaſed forthwith to give orders and directions that the 16,000 Hanoverians, now in the pay of Great Britain, be no longer continued in the ſervice of this nation after the 25th of this inſtant December." The debate upon this queſtion was pretty much the ſame as that in the houſe of peers, but it was not oppoſed there with the ſame abilities, or to the ſame conviction of the hearers. It was, after being long continued by a variety of ſpeakers, thrown out by a majority of 231 againſt 181. On the 15th of December another motion was made by Mr. Greenville, and ſeconded by George Lyttelton, eſq; ſince lord Lyttleton, "To addreſs his majeſty that he will not engage the Britiſh nation any farther in the war on the continent, without the concurrence of the States General, on certain ſtipulated proportions of force and expences in the laſt war." The motion diſmiſſed on a diviſion. Motion on the ſame in the houſe of commons,

As their High Mightineſſes had marched no more than 20,000 of their troops to the aſſiſtance of the queen of Hungary, and as they had come too late to the allied army to perform any material ſervice; but above all, as it never had been doubted by thoſe who were moſt forward in ſupporting the houſe of Auſtria, that the States General would enter into the war upon the ſame terms as in the reigns of king William and queen Anne, there was great foundation in reaſon for this motion. It was, however, oppoſed by the miniſterial party, as entrenching too far upon the prerogative, and as being improper with regard to the Dutch themſelves, conſidering the forwardneſs they had lately ſhewn, and the diſordered ſtate of their finances, which, with the dilatory forms of their government, did not, perhaps, admit of their taking ſuch vigorous reſolutions as the moſt ſanguine part of this nation might call for. Upon the queſtion, the motion was rejected by a majority of 209 againſt 132. The next motion in the houſe of commons was for repealing the ſeptennial bill, and was made by Mr. Sydenham, one of the members for diſmiſſed likewiſe. Motion for repealing the ſeptennial act by Mr Sydenham.

Geo. II. 1744. for Exeter. He had been bred a lawyer, and was a ſerious principled man, but weak and tinctured with enthuſiaſm. He was valuable for the primitive examples of ſobriety, attendance and attention he gave to every thing that paſſed in the houſe, but, by his frequency of ſpeaking, he loſt all weight in with the members. His motion was ſeconded by Edward Gybbons, eſq; but as that debate was now become ſtale, and as it was generally underſtood that that queſtion and many others that were moved for in courſe, never had been meant to be carried even by the movers themſelves, the ſame was ſupported only for the ſake of form and decency by ſome of its former friends, and received a negative by a majority of 32.

Contract for the Hanoverians renewed.

On the 27th of January the houſe of lords had under their conſideration the eſtimates of the charge of the Hanoverian troops, whoſe time of ſervice in the pay of Great Britain had elapſed on the 25th of December; but the contract for continuing them in the ſame had been renewed in conſideration of 393,773l. 6s. 1d. It was then obſerved, that the caſe of thoſe troops differed from what it was when the laſt motion for their being diſmiſſed was made. The earl of Sandwich, therefore, after a very fine introductory ſpeech, made another motion, which differed from the former in little but in being conceived in more decent terms. It was,

A freſh motion againſt them,

"That an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, earneſtly entreating him, that in conſideration of the jealouſies and diſcontent of his faithful ſubjects at home, and his Britiſh troops abroad, he would be graciouſly pleaſed to give orders, that the 16,000 Hanoverians be no longer continued in pay of Great Britain; being prejudicial to the public ſervice, inconſiſtent with the true intereſt of his majeſty, and dangerous to the tranquillity and welfare of the whole nation."

Though ſome of the earl of Orford's friends ſpoke for this motion, yet the lord chancellor very juſtly obſerved, that the motion was in fact the ſame that had been already rejected by the houſe that very ſeſſion, and therefore could not then regularly come before them; becauſe it was againſt all forms of parliamentary proceeding. But notwithſtanding this forcible objection, the queſtion, whether the queſtion ſhould be put, bore a long debate, and the earl of Cheſterfield, in order to remove the objection ſtarted by the chancellor, moved to alter the words, "pay of Great Britain," the words "after the 25th of March," might be inſerted. But the majority of the houſe were of opinion, that the amendment did not materially make it a new queſtion, and therefore the queſtion being put paſſed in the negative.

The

The conſideration of the eſtimates being then put off to the 31ſt of January, the intermediate time was employed in an indefatigable ſearch after facts to fix the charge of diſobedience and cowardice upon the Hanoverians. Some gentlemen who had ſerved in the campaign, were held in readineſs to have appeared at the bar to have given teſtimony of the facts alleged; and on the 31ſt of January, the earl of Sandwich made a freſh motion upon the ſame ſubject, "That the continuing 16,000 Hanoverians in Britiſh pay, was prejudicial to the true intereſt of his majeſty, uſeleſs to the common cauſe, and dangerous to the welfare and tranquillity of the nation." Some facts came out upon this day's debate, which made ſeveral proſelytes to the motion amongſt the peers; but the houſe did not think them to be ſo well atteſted, or ſo clear, as to ground a national cenſure. The queſtion therefore was rejected by a majority of 86 againſt 41; but a ſtrong proteſt was entered, part of which, becauſe it is hiſtorical, and contains the chief allegations againſt the Hanoverians, the reader will find in the notes [a].

1744. but is renewed,

and again rejected with a proteſt.

It

[a] That theſe Hanoverians, tho' in the pay, could hardly be ſaid to be in the ſervice of the Britiſh nation: ſome refuſed to form in the firſt line at the battle of Dettingen, and retired to the ſecond; others refuſed to obey the orders of the Britiſh general, and march in purſuit of the enemy after the battle, and the greateſt number of them, who, together with ſome of the Britiſh guards, compoſed what was called the rear guard, under the command of a Hanoverian lieutenant-general, took a different rout in the march from the reſt of the army from Aſchaffenburg; and ſuch a one as not only rendered them wholly uſeleſs to the army when the French attacked them in front, but would have rendered them equally uſeleſs, if the French from Aſchaffenburg, where the paſſage was left open to them, had attacked the allies in the rear, in which it was pretended that theſe troops were left as in the poſt of honour. Nay, not contented to avoid being of uſe either in the front or in the rear, but determined to be of no uſe any where, they halted as ſoon as they came within ſight and reach of the battle, tho' preſſed by the Britiſh officers, and invited by the ardour of the Britiſh ſoldiers to ſhare the glory, and complete (as they might have done) the victory of the day. That they conceived the future co-operation of the national troops with theſe mercenaries had been rendered impracticable, and even their meeting dangerous; they thought it therefore indiſpenſably incumbent on them to remove the object that occaſioned the many inſtances of partiality, by which the Hanoverians were unhappily diſtinguiſhed, and the Britiſh

Geo. II. 1744.

It is incredible what a ſpirit of contempt, hatred, and deteſtation thoſe repeated motions and debates infuſed into all ranks againſt the Hanoverians; and yet there is now no truth of that kind more univerſally acknowledged than that, for courage and diſcipline, the very body of men ſo much exclaimed againſt were inferior to none in Europe; that they had, as appeared by their returns of killed and wounded, ſuffered proportionably to the Britiſh troops in the battle of Dettingen, and that the miſtakes which had happened were merely caſual and local. The members in the oppoſition, however, in both houſes, pretended that they had the ſame regard as before for the liberties of Europe, but that whatever foundation there might be for the charges brought againſt the Hanoverians, it would be highly improper that the Britiſh troops and they ſhould ever again ſerve together in the ſame camp, on account of the ſettled hatred they conceived for each other; and that therefore it would be much more eligible to hire troops elſewhere. But ſeveral officers of great experience and high rank were of opinion, that another campaign, inſtead of continuing animoſities, would extinguiſh them, and that the Britiſh and Hanoverian ſoldiers would become dear to one another by ſerving in the ſame cauſe, and under the ſame ſovereign. It was farther obſerved, that the hiring other troops was both precarious and dilatory; that Great Britain

Effects of thoſe motions, and remarks upon them.

forces undeſervedly diſcouraged. The conſtant preference in quarters, forage, and other things, their lordſhips wiſhed no occaſion had been given to remember, but they cannot paſs over in ſilence the Hanoverian guards having for ſome days done duty upon his majeſty at Aſchaffenburg, which their lordſhips looked upon as the higheſt diſhonour to his majeſty and the Britiſh nation. That a purſuit of ſome foreign intereſt had already weakened the natural influence of Great Britain, in purſuit of the common cauſe of Europe. That Great Britain is a powerful kingdom, and whenever ſhe had acted in her true character, and aimed at that great and noble view alone, of maintaining a balance between the powers of Europe for the common intereſts of all, the effect had been anſwerable to the cauſe, and her influence in Germany, ſaved by her arms, and ſupported by her treaſures in the laſt wars, was as it ought to be, and had been every where elſe ſuperior: but ſhould it ever appear that an inferior German principality was really, and Great Britain only nominally, the director and actor, ſuch a change in the cauſe muſt neceſſarily produce a deplorable difference in the effect; and Hanover, that could neither give ſtrength nor conſideration to Great Britain, might thus diminiſh the one, and take the other wholly away.

could

could have them only from the Swiss cantons, where the French had great influence, and if they could not prevent their being hired, they would certainly interrupt them in their march, and that a disappointment must be fatal to the common cause; not to mention the indignity offered to his majesty, who could not so readily rely upon other troops as he could do upon his own subjects. Geo. II. 1744.

The expence the nation was at this year, was perhaps greater than she had ever borne at one period of time. The national debt, since the commencement of the Spanish war, had encreased upwards of six millions, of which 2,125,300l. had been contracted since December 31, 1742. On the 9th of December this year, the house of commons voted 40,000 seamen for the service of the ensuing year. The British troops to serve in Flanders were voted to be 21,358, and the other national troops were 19,028 land-forces, including 1815 invalids for guards and garisons, and 11,550 marines, the whole of the national troops amounting to 51,936 men. The money provided by the committee of supply was 6,283,537l. which the committee of ways and means proposed to raise by the following funds, viz. Land-tax, 2,000,000l. malt tax, 750,000l. From the East-India company for renewing their charter for fourteen years, 1,000,000. Annuities at 3 per cent. 1,200,000l. By a lottery, 600,000l. By the coinage, 36,000l. From the sinking fund, 1,000,000. In all, 6,586,000l. consequently there was a surplus of 302,463l. So that when the money paid in perpetual taxes is included, the money raised this year fell little short of ten millions sterling. Great national expence this year.

While the British ministry, with inexpressible application, was preparing to execute the means concerted by his majesty for re-establishing the balance of power in Europe, France, with resentment at the disgraces of her arms, the waste of her blood, and the profusion of treasure she had so ineffectually consumed, meditated an expedition that was to make her amends for all her losses, and to efface all her dishonour. The French meditate an invasion of Great Britain.

Mention has been already made of the negotiations between the French and the old pretender. Perhaps, like many other projects of the same kind, they might have come to nothing, had not the universal outcry against the Hanoverians, which still gathered strength in Great Britain, encouraged them. The ministry of the French king, all but Tencin, disliked having any connections of that kind, and represented the improbability of France being able to shake the throne of a family that owed its elevation to the voluntary call of a whole P. 596.

Geo. II. 1744. whole people; which, notwithſtanding ſome little diſguſts, would, upon the ſmalleſt proſpect of real danger, unite as one man in their defence. They mentioned the many fruitleſs attempts made by France in former times, when there was much greater probability of ſucceſs, and the vaſt ſums that ſhe had expended on that account, together with the recent loſſes ſhe had ſuſtained by the German war; the inequality between the French and the Engliſh marine, and the folly of ſacrificing brave men in a deſperate undertaking.

Sentiments of the French court upon that head.

The French king, who, at this time, affected to govern without a firſt miniſter, or at leaſt, without one who had ſuch abſolute power as Fleury had poſſeſſed, ſeemed inclinable to liſten to the above reaſoning, and was always very ſhy of giving countenance to the family of Stuart, or any of its adherents. Tencin, however, continued ſtrongly to patroniſe them, and formed a ſtrong party in their favour among ſt the princes of the blood and ſome of the great nobility. Neither Belliſle nor count Saxe thought it impoſſible to invade England, and to maintain their ground till they could be reinforced; and Roquefeuille, whom that court had great dependence on as a ſea officer, thought the deſcent was very practicable. Notwithſtanding all this, the ableſt ſtateſmen and financers were ſo averſe to any ſcheme of that nature, that even after the French king was induced to give it his countenance, his troops who were to make the deſcent, had it ſucceeded, muſt have chiefly depended upon the ſpoils of England for their ſubſiſtance. Tencin, however, carried his point by the only ſenſible arguments he could have uſed on the occaſion, and that was the effect which ſuch an invaſion muſt immediately have upon the public credit of England, at a time when ſhe was engaged in ſuch immenſe undertakings upon the continent.

The pretender agrees to lend them his ſon.

This conſideration ſomewhat abated the averſion [illegible] d'Argenſon, Amelot, and the other French miniſters h[illegible] this daring attempt, and their king was at laſt brought conſent that his name ſhould be made uſe of in treating wit[illegible] the old pretender, for what may be called a loan of his ſon, to be made uſe of in a deſcent upon England; and count Saxe was pitched upon to command it. The count, full of ambition and enterprize, was fond of ſo glorious a deſtination. He had been at one time of his life in England, without being greatly ſatisfied with the reception he had met with; and from its being unprovided with ſtrong towns and fortreſſes, he had formed an idea that it might be eaſily over-run. The old pretender was prevailed upon to ſuffer his ſon to make the

the experiment; the young man embraced it with great joy, and every thing was to be conducted with the moſt impenetrable ſecrecy. Geo. II. 1744.

Spain thought herſelf more concerned in the ſucceſs of this expedition, than France was; and was prevailed upon to advance the money, which the finances of France would not part with. It was likewiſe given out, with ſome colour of truth at that time, that farther terms of aſſiſtance were ſtipulated by the Stuart family with France and Spain; but what happened afterwards ſeems to prove, if any ſuch were, they were only verbal; for it cannot well be ſuppoſed, that after the provocations that family received from France, they would have concealed any proofs of her bad faith. Spain joins in the attempt.

Be that as it will, after the concert was formed, the eldeſt ſon of the pretender, then about 23 years of age, gave out, that he intended to make a campaign in Piedmont, under don Philip. But obtaining a paſs from cardinal Aquaviva, he came in the diſguiſe of a Spaniſh courier with one domeſtic, who perſonated a Spaniſh ſecretary, to Genoa, on the 13th of January. Next day, in the ſame diſguiſe, he went to Savona, and embarking, landed at Antibes; and entered Paris about the 20th of the ſame month, where every thing was ſettled at an audience he obtained, by means of cardinal Tencin, from the French king. The young pretender arrives in France.

Mean while, France was making prodigious efforts to reeſtabliſh her marine; which, during the miniſtry of cardinal Fleury, had ſuffered greatly. A vaſt number of tranſports were collected at Dunkirk, and all along the coaſts of France, oppoſite to England; and theſe were to receive 15,000 men, under the command of count Saxe, the prince of Monaco, [illegible]r de Matignon, and five other general-officers. It was likewiſe reſolved, that the young pretender, with ſome Irish and Scots, who had followed the fortunes of his family, ſhould go on board the ſame ſhip with the count de Saxe, and a manifeſto, addreſſed to the Engliſh nation, in his father's name, was drawn up, to be diſperſed as ſoon as he ſhould land. The ſhips of war, who were to be commanded by Roqueſeuille and Barrail, were in number thirteen of the line, beſides frigates, and all of them well manned. The court of France thought that this fleet was ſufficient, when joined, as it was, by five ſhips of the line from Rochefort, to fight, and beat, any one diviſion of the Britiſh navy then at ſea; and thereby facilitate the landing of the tranſports. But they were deceived. Roqueſeuille's ſquadron, when entering the Britiſh channel, was diſcovered by the Biddeford and Preparations there for invading England. Their fleet diſcovered in the Engliſh channel.

Geo. II. 1744.

and Kinſale men of war, which were convoying to Jamaica a fleet of merchant-ſhips; and the lords of the admiralty had immediate notice of the ſame, while the Phœnix, another Engliſh ſhip, had informed that board of their having ſailed from Breſt. A ſtrong fleet was now rendezvouſing at Spithead; ſir John Norris was ſent with the utmoſt expedition to command it; orders were diſpatched for a large body of troops to march towards the ſouthern coaſts; and by means of a vigorous preſs, ſir John found at Spithead three ſhips of 100 guns each, four of 90, ſix of 70, ſix of 50, four of 40, and ſix of 20 guns each. With thoſe ſhips he ſailed round to the Downs, where, being joined by ſome ſhips of the line from Chatham, he found his fleet conſiderably ſtronger than that of the French.

and are deceived by appearances.

Roqueſeuille, by this time, had come a-breaſt of the Iſle of Wight. He had on board four thouſand land-forces, part of the troops deſtined for the invaſion, and perceiving no ſhips at Spithead, he imagined the Britiſh fleet had taken ſhelter within Portſmouth harbour. Upon this, he diſpatched Barrail, to haſten the embarkation at Dunkirk and the other ports of France, with full aſſurances of ſucceſs. Seven thouſand land forces had by this time been embarked; and the ſhips had actually put to ſea. The young pretender, as had been concerted, was in the ſame ſhip with count de Saxe, and the reſt of the embarkation went on with the greateſt expedition. But a ſudden ſtorm ariſing, drove the whole on ſhore, after, according to ſome, the young pretender had been in ſight of the coaſts of England, and ſome of the largeſt tranſports, with all the men on board, were loſt.

Proceedings of the French and Engliſh fleets; and

Roqueſeuille was, at this time, at an anchor off Dungeneſs; but ſir John Norris, ſir Charles Hardy, and vice-admiral Martin, with the Britiſh fleet under their command, the 23d of February, ſailed round the South-Foreland, and came in ſight of the French fleet, but the tide of flood, as we ſaid, being almoſt ſpent, and the ebb ſucceeding, the Britiſh ſquadron was obliged to veer, and to anchor within two leagues of the French.

This part of the Engliſh hiſtory, notwithſtanding its being ſo recent, is extremely dark. Many officers of great experience and underſtanding, and who were preſent, cannot account for the reaſon why ſir John Norris did not attack the French immediately when he came up with them, which they ſay he might eaſily have done; and in that caſe, ſcarcely a ſhip of the French could have eſcaped. For, they ſay, the latter were very much inferior, in every reſpect, to the Bri-

Britiſh, but had ſuffered greatly in a ſtorm ſome days before. Geo. II. 1744.

The truth is, Norris, though a very able admiral, was now far paſt that age of enterprize, which is neceſſary for ſucceſs in bold undertakings, and with as much courage as any man could poſſeſs, he hardly ever had an opportunity of fighting, and was therefore looked upon to be an unfortunate commander. On the other hand, it was ſaid in his defence, that it would have been highly improper, and next to impoſſible, for him to have attacked the enemy that night. It is certain, he deferred the attack till next morning. The French admiral could ſcarcely believe his own good fortune. He ordered his anchors to be weighed a-peek at ſun-ſet, and about ſeven in the evening, when the tide began, he put up his ordinary lights, and got ready to ſail, and then made the beſt of his way with his fleet for Breſt, where they accordingly arrived with great difficulty and confuſion. extraordinary eſcape of the French. who get to Breſt.

The Britiſh admiral coming next morning upon deck, was ſurprized when he perceived the French ſquadron had given him the ſlip, and would have thrown the blame upon ſome of his officers, but they cleared themſelves under his orders. As if the elements had conſpired to favour the eſcape of the French, ſo freſh a gale ſprung up upon their ſetting ſail, that they drove at the rate of four leagues an hour; and when the Britiſh fleet prepared to follow them, they were ſaved by a thick fog. Sir John Norris had now no enemy to deal with, but the ſtorm, by which his ſhips were very roughly handled, and he was obliged to return to the Downs, after ſending the three-decked ſhips to Portſmouth under ſir Charles Hardy.

The danger which the Britiſh nation was in, from this invaſion, was over almoſt before it was known in England. On the 15th of February, his majeſty ſent to both houſes of parliament a meſſage, to acquaint them, "Of his having received undoubted intelligence, that the eldeſt ſon of the pretender to his crown, was arrived in France, and that preparations were making there to invade the Britiſh nation, in concert with diſaffected perſons in England, and that ſuch invaſion was to be ſupported by the ſquadron of French men of war, which had been cruiſing ſeveral days in the Britiſh channel. That his majeſty had, therefore, judged it proper to acquaint his parliament with an intelligence of ſuch high importance to his crown, and the peace and ſecurity of his kingdoms; and his majeſty doubted not, from the experienced zeal, duty and affection of his parliament, that King's meſſage to both houſes of parliament.

Geo. II. 1744. they would ſtrengthen his hands, and concur in all ſuch meaſures, as ſhould be neceſſary for diſappointing and defeating ſo dangerous an attempt, and for the ſecurity of his perſon and government, and the religion, laws, and liberties of his kingdoms.'

Their joint addreſs. The effects which this meſſage produced, ſoon convinced ſuch of the partizans of France and the pretender, who were not under an actual infatuation, how fatally they had been deluded by the appearances of oppoſition in England. Both houſes of parliament joined in an addreſs to his majeſty, as dutiful, as affectionate, and as full of abhorrence, at the inſolent attempt, as the ſtrongeſt expreſſions of the Engliſh language could make it; for it concluded with the following words. "And we beg leave to declare to your majeſty, and to the whole world, that it is the fixed reſolution and purpoſe of our hearts, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, to ſupport and defend your majeſty, and your undoubted right and title to the crown of theſe realms, and the Proteſtant ſucceſſion in your royal houſe, in oppoſition to, and defiance of, the pretender and his adherents, and all other your majeſty's enemies." This addreſs met with a moſt gracious anſwer.

Other addreſſes. The city of London diſtinguiſhed itſelf as warmly upon the ſame occaſion, which was the more agreeable to his majeſty, as the enemies of the government had conſtantly inſinuated, that the ſtrength of their intereſt lay in that capital. His majeſty, in his anſwer to their addreſs, told the magiſtrate and others, who preſented it, "that he had the firmeſt confidence that they would exert their authority upon that occaſion, for the ſecurity of the city, and the preſervation of the public peace, and for the ſupport of his government." The gentlemen knighted by his majeſty on this occaſ[illegible] were, Weſtley the lord-mayor, Urling the recorder, the [illegible] Lambert and Wilmot, and the ſheriffs Ladbroke and Calvert. The like addreſſes were ſent up from the lieutenancy of London, from Weſtminſter, Briſtol, Rocheſter, Leiceſter, Poole, the univerſities of Oxford and Cambridge, and ſooner or later from all the conſiderable bodies corporate and principal boroughs in the kingdom. The clergy of the province of Canterbury in convocation aſſembled, likewiſe manifeſted their zeal upon this occaſion, as did the diſſenting miniſters and ſpeakers. But perhaps the addreſs that did the government the greateſt ſervice at this time, was from the merchants of London, who, to the number of 520, agreed to ſupport the public credit, and to hazard their lives and for-

fortunes in defence of his majesty's sacred person and government, and for the security of the protestant succession in his royal family. Geo. II. 1744.

This last address, procured by the influence which Mr. Pelham, who was now considered as the minister of the people, had obtained by that candor, and those disinterested principles, which he had always professed and made good, perfectly secured the public credit. To strengthen those civil dispositions, lieutenant-general Cope and some other general-officers set out to command the forces in Scotland. Tilbury-fort and Sheerness were reinforced by troops from the neighbourhood; the naval and military magazines were augmented, and all the posts and country accessible to a landing on the Kentish or any other coasts, were strongly guarded. Preparations against the invasion.

On the 16th of February, general Wentworth set out for Holland, to concert measures with Mr. Trevor, the British envoy at the Hague, to demand the auxiliary troops of 6000 men, which were stipulated in the perpetual league between England and Holland of 1678, and confirmed by the treaty of 1716 and 1728, to be furnished by their High Mightinesses, whenever Great Britain was attacked. Mr. Trevor accordingly presented a strong memorial for that purpose, and their High Mightinesses, to take away all suspicion of backwardness or lukewarmness in the cause of Great Britain, made answer, "That the umbrage which had been taken, as if the kingdoms of his Britannic majesty were threatened with an invasion from the arrival of the eldest son of the pretender in France, from the sailing of the Brest squadron, and from the preparations and motions which were making along the coasts, and particularly at Dunkirk, in order to an embarkation of troops there, could not be looked upon but as extremely well founded. That their High Mightinesses being firmly persuaded, that in this conjuncture their interests were one and the same with those of his Britannic majesty, they would be ready and willing to give his majesty all the assistance, which the common interests and good faith of treaties required, to the utmost of their power." Dutch troops arrive.

Accordingly, on the 18th of March, the first division of Dutch troops arrived at Gravesend in 18 transports, and the rest very soon after, consisting of the battalions of Lindman, Bedares, Shauenberg, Lippe, Eek de Pantaleon, Murart, and Glinstra, commanded by lieutenant-general Spitzbert, major-general Rompf, and the brigadiers Roode van Heckeren and van Leyden.

As

Geo. II. 1744.

As it was now evident to all the well-meaning part of the nation, that the clamour againſt the Hanover troops had been the chief inducement for the French to meditate an invaſion of Great Britain, the earl of Stair and the duke of Marlborough ſet a noble example of duty and affection to his majeſty, by offering him their ſervices in any ſtation he pleaſed to command. They were accordingly accepted of, and the earl of Stair was appointed commander in chief of all the forces in South Britain. Many other noblemen of the greateſt diſtinction likewiſe offered their ſervices upon this occaſion, to raiſe regiments of horſe and foot, and the zeal of the duke of Montague was gratified by being permitted to raiſe a complete regiment of 100 horſe, which he did in Northamptonſhire.

Earl of Stair and duke of Marlborough return into his majeſty's ſervice.

Notwithſtanding the late daring attempt of the French, many of even the well-meaning ſubjects of England and all the diſaffected, appeared to be incredulous as to the bugbear of the young pretender, which was the term made uſe of. But to convince them of the reality of his attempt, captain Ridley, maſter of a pacquet-boat, which had been for ſome time detained at Calais, where the French embarkation was going forward, made an affidavit, "That during his detention, he heard of great preparations for a deſcent on Great Britain, for which an army of near 20,000 men lay ready, with a conſiderable number of tranſports; that he ſaw the general, accompanied by a tall young gentleman, of about 24 years of age, who was reported by the French to be the eldeſt ſon of the pretender; and that another young man was in their company, who was ſaid to be his brother: that an embargo was laid on the ſhipping; and even the Britiſh meſſenger and an agent were ſearched and detained by the commandant of Calais."

Other evidence of the invaſion deſigned by the pretender's eldeſt ſon.

When thoſe papers were communicated by his majeſty, on the 24th of February, to both houſes of parliament, the houſe of commons preſented to him a very loyal addreſs, "Beſeeching his majeſty, that he would, in that dangerous and critical conjuncture of affairs, augment his forces by ſea and land in ſuch a manner, as he ſhould think proper and neceſſary; and to aſſure his majeſty, that the houſe would make good all ſuch expences as he ſhould be at, for the defence of his ſacred perſon, and for the ſecurity of his kingdoms."

Addreſs to his majeſty from the parliament.

Theſe matters began to be very ſerious in France between Great Britain and that crown, the earl of Waldegrave, the Britiſh miniſter there, returned to England, and left his

chap-

chaplain, Mr. Thompſon, charged with the Britiſh affairs, there. As ſoon as the arrival of the young pretender in France was known, his grace the duke of Newcaſtle, ſecretary of ſtate, ſent Mr. Thompſon orders immediately to repair to M. Amelot, demanding, that in purſuance of treaties, the ſaid perſon ſhould be obliged to quit the French king's territories. Amelot's anſwer to Mr. Thompſon, when he communicated to him thoſe orders, was, that he muſt ſee the king his maſter, before he could give him any reply. It is certain that many great debates aroſe in the cabinet of the French king upon this ſubject, and a reſolution was upon the point of being taken, purſuant to his Britannic majeſty's demand. But the relations and agents of the name of Stuart having received freſh aſſurances from their friends in Great Britain, made ſuch intereſt, that it was reſolved to evade the demand, though they could not prevail with his moſt Chriſtian majeſty abſolutely to reject it. M. Amelot's anſwer therefore to Mr. Thompſon, was, "That engagements entered into by treaties, were not binding, any further than thoſe treaties were religiouſly obſerved by the contracting powers on all ſides. That when the king of England ſhould have cauſed ſatisfaction to be given, upon the repeated complaints that have been made to him, of the infractions of thoſe very treaties, of which he then demanded the performance, which violations were committed by his orders, his moſt Chriſtian majeſty would then explain himſelf upon the preſent demand made by Mr. Thompſon, in the name of his Britannic majeſty."

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Upon this anſwer being communicated by Mr. Thompſon to his court, there was no longer any doubt that mutual declarations of war would ſoon follow. All parties ſeemed now to be ſwallowed up in duty and attachment to his majeſty's perſon and government. Notwithſtanding this, it is incredible with what deluſions the adherents of the houſe of Stuart miſled themſelves, and endeavoured to miſlead others. As a proof of this, they endeavoured to introduce to the duke of Argyle, who was then near his end, a letter, wrote by the old pretender, thanking him, (as if in all his oppoſition he had meant only to reſtore the family of Stuart,) and promiſing him his own terms if he was reſtored. His grace very prudently communicated this letter to the privy-council, declaring at the ſame time, he had it from the earl of Barrymore. This nobleman was an Iriſh earl poſſeſſed of a great eſtate, and generoſity of any kind was far from being amongſt his virtues, ſo that his love of money made it

Plot in England diſcovered.

Geo. II. 1744. it the more unlikely, that he would venture upon ſo hazardous a ſcheme. On the other hand, it was publicly known, that he had an attachment to the exiled duke of Ormond, and he had been raiſed by his intereſt and that of the tories to the rank of a general officer in the reign of queen Anne; ſo that he was now very far advanced in years. Being charged with leaving the letter at the duke's apartment, he could not deny it, but ſaid, he had it from one Beaufort, a doctor of phyſick, another very old decrepid man, who charged it upon colonel Cecil, who was as old as either, and all of them were ſecured by warrants from the ſecretary of State. Some other perſons of an inferior rank were ſeized, but it appearing, upon examination, that the earl of Barrymore was ignorant of the contents of the letter, no ſevere proceedings were held againſt them; and as ſoon as the apprehenſions of an invaſion were over, they were all of them diſcharged.

War declared by France. It was the 20th of March, before the French, irritated as they were, by their repeated loſſes and diſgraces, declared war againſt Great Britain. As the declaration contains ſome hiſtorical facts, the reader will find it in the notes [a]. This declaration was preceded by ſeveral conferences between Mr. Thompſon and the French miniſtry, who gave him warning to retire from France.

On

[a] The French king's declaration of war.

By the KING.

Upon the breaking out of the troubles after the death of the emperor Charles the ſixth, the king took all opportunities of ſhewing, that his majeſty deſired nothing more earneſtly than to ſee them ſpeedily concluded, by an equitable accommodation between the parties in war.

The conduct which his majeſty has ever ſince obſerved, has ſufficiently demonſtrated, that he conſtantly perſiſted in the ſame diſpoſitions; and his majeſty, not being deſirous of forming any pretenſions for himſelf, which might in the leaſt obſtruct the re-eſtabliſhment of the tranquillity of Europe, had no notion of being obliged to take part in the war, otherwiſe than in ſupplying his allies with the ſuccours which he was engaged to give them.

Such diſintereſted views would ſoon have reſtored peace, if the court of London had thought with as much equity and moderation, and if it had conſulted nothing but the welfare and advantage of the Engliſh nation; but the king of England, elector of Hanover, had very oppoſite intentions, which, as it was ſoon perceived, aimed at nothing leſs than kindling a general war. Not ſatisfied with diſſuading the court of Vienna from entertaining any notion of a reconciliation, and with nouriſhing its animoſity by the

On the 31ſt of March war was proclaimed with the uſual formalities at London, on the part of Great Britain. This pro- Geo. II. 1744. and England.

the moſt violent councils, it has taken all opportunities of irritating France, by every where diſturbing her maritime commerce, in contempt of the law of nations, and the moſt ſolemn treaties.

The convention of Hanover, in October 1741, ſeemed at leaſt to have aſſured his majeſty of the diſcontinuance of ſuch exceſſes. The king of England, during the ſtay he made in his German dominions, appeared to liſten to the complaints which were made to him on this occaſion, and to perceive the juſtice of them; he gave his royal word that he would cauſe them to ceaſe, and he formally engaged himſelf not to diſturb the allies of the king in the purſuit of their rights; but ſcarce was he returned to London, before he forgot all his promiſes; and as ſoon as he was certain that the king's army had entirely quitted Weſtphalia, he cauſed it to be declared by his miniſters, that the convention no longer ſubſiſted, and that he looked upon himſelf as diſengaged from it.

He then thought there was no longer neceſſity to act with circumſpection: being himſelf a perſonal enemy of France, he ſeemed to have no other views than to raiſe up ſuth every where againſt her: this became the principal point in the inſtructions of his miniſters in all the courts of Europe. The piracies of the Engliſh men of war encreaſed with cruelty and barbarity; even the ports of the kingdom were no longer an aſylum againſt their inſults. The Engliſh have at length dared to block up the port of Toulon, to ſtop all ſhips, to ſeize upon the merchandize which they carried, and to take even the recruits and ammunition which his majeſty was ſending into his ſtrong places.

So many repeated injuries and outrages have at laſt tired the patience of his majeſty, who can no longer bear with them, without failing in the protection which he owes his own ſubjects, in the aſſiſtance he owes his allies, in the defence of himſelf, his honour and glory. Theſe are the juſt motives that no longer permit his majeſty to keep within the bounds of moderation which he had preſcribed to himſelf, and which conſtrain him to declare war, as he does by theſe preſents, againſt the king of England, elector of Hanover, both by ſea and land.

His majeſty ordains and enjoins all his ſubjects, vaſſals and ſervants, to fall upon the ſubjects of the king of England, elector of Hanover; forbids them in the moſt expreſs manner from hereafter having any communication, commerce, or intelligence with them, on pain of death; and conſequently his majeſty hath from henceforward revoked, and does revoke all permiſſions, paſſports, ſafeguards, and ſafe-conducts, which may have been given by himſelf, or by his lieutenant-generals, and other his officers, contrary to theſe preſents, and hath declared them, and does declare them null,

Geo. II. 1744. proclamation being a kind of an answer to that of France, the reader will likewise find it in the notes [a].

This

null, void, and of no effect, forbidding all persons from having any regard thereto.

His majesty orders and commands the duke de Penthievre, admiral of France, the marshals of France, the governors and lieutenant-generals for his majesty in his provinces and armies, camp-marshals, colonels, captains, heads and conductors of his military people, as well horse as foot, French and foreigners, and all other his officers whom it shall concern, that they, and each of them, cause the purport of these presents to be executed, in the extent of their powers and jurisdictions, for such is the will of his majesty. He wills and intends that these presents shall be published and fixed up in all the cities, as well maritime as others, and in all the ports, harbours, and other places of his kingdom and territories under his obedience, where it shall be needful, that none may pretend ignorance thereof.

Done at Versailles, March 15, (4th) 1744. Signed,

LOUIS.

And underneath, AMELOT.

[a] His majesty's declaration of war against the French king.

The troubles which broke out in Germany, on account of the succession of the late emperor Charles the sixth, having been begun and carried on by the instigation, assistance, and support of the French king, with a view to overturn the balance of power in Europe, and to extend the dangerous influence of that crown, in direct violation of the solemn guaranty of the pragmatic sanction, given by him in the year 1738, in consideration of the cession of Lorrain; and we having on our part executed our engagements for maintaining the pragmatic sanction, with that good faith which is inseparable from us; and having opposed the attempts made against the dominions of the queen of Hungary; we are not surprized that our conduct in this respect, should have drawn upon us the resentment of the French king, who has found his ambitious views, in a great measure, disappointed by the assistance we have furnished to our ally, unjustly attacked by him; or that he should alledge it as a principal reason for declaring war against us.

From the time that we found ourselves obliged, for the maintenance of the just rights of our subjects, to enter into a war with Spain, instead of observing a strict neutrality, which we might have promised ourselves on the part of the French king, from whom we were even founded by treaty to have demanded assistance; he has given encouragement and support to our enemies, by conniving at his subjects, acting as privateers under Spanish commissions, both in Europe and America; and by sending in the year 1740, a strong squadron in to the American seas, in order to prevent us from prosecuting the just war which we were carrying on against Spain in those parts; and we have the

most

This declaration was followed by very vigorous measures; a general press all over the kingdom went on with great success,

Vigorous measures.

most authentick proof, that an order was given to the commander of the French squadron, not only to act in a hostile manner against our ships, either jointly with the Spaniards, or separately; but even to concert measures with our enemies for attacking one of our principal dominions in America; a duplicate of that order dated the 7th of October, 1740, having fallen into the hands of the commander in chief of our squadron in the West Indies. This injurious proceeding was greatly aggravated by the French minister at our court, having declared on occasion of sending the said squadron, that the French king was very far from having any design or intention of breaking with us.

The same offensive conduct was continued, on the part of the French king, towards us, by his squadron in the Mediterranean, in the year 1741, joining with and protecting the ships of our enemies, in sight of our fleet, which was preparing to attack them.

These unwarrantable proceedings; the notorious breach of treaties, by repairing the fortifications, and erecting new works at Dunkirk; the open hostilities lately committed against our fleet in the Mediterranean; the affront and indignity offered to us, by the reception of the son of the pretender to our crown, in the French dominions; the embarkation actually made at Dunkirk, of a considerable body of troops, notoriously designed for an invasion of this kingdom, in favour of the pretender to our crown; and the sending a squadron of French ships of war into the channel, to support the embarkation and invasion, will be lasting monuments of the little regard had by the French court for the most solemn engagements, when the observance of them is inconsistent with interest, ambition, or resentment.

We cannot omit taking notice of the unjust insinuations contained in the French king's declaration of war against us, with respect to the convention made at Hanover, in October, 1741; that convention, regarding our electorate only, had no relation to our conduct as king of Great Britain. The allegations concerning it, are groundless and injurious; our proceedings in that respect, having been perfectly consistent with that good faith, which we have always made the rule of our actions.

It is unnecessary to mention the objections made to the behaviour of our ministers in foreign courts; since it is notorious that the principal view and object of the negotiations of the French ministers in the several courts of Europe, have been either to stir up intestine commotions in the countries where they resided, or to create differences or misunderstandings between them and their respective allies.

The charge of piracy, cruelty, and barbarity against our ships of war, is equally unjust and unbecoming; and we have all such proceedings so much in abhor-

Geo. II. 1744. ſome regiments were landed from Ireland, and ſix were ordered to be raiſed, to maintain the public tranquillity at home, while the Dutch auxiliaries, now that all apprehenſions of an invaſion were over, embarked for Oſtend.

On the 3d of April his majeſty came to the houſe of peers, and acquainted his parliament of the mutual declarations of war that had been made. There was nothing particular in his ſpeech upon this occaſion, but that he had made the proper requiſitions to his allies, particularly the States-General of the United Provinces, whoſe firm friendſhip he

abhorrence, that, if any practices of that nature had been made appear to us, we ſhould have taken effectual care to put a ſtop to them, and to have puniſhed the offenders in the ſevereſt manner.

We being therefore indiſpenſably obliged to take up arms, and entirely relying on the help of Almighty God, who knows the uprightneſs of our intentions, have thought fit to declare, and do hereby declare war againſt the French king; and we will, in purſuance of ſuch declaration, vigorouſly proſecute the ſame by ſea and land; being aſſured of the ready concurrence and aſſiſtance of all our loving ſubjects, in ſo juſt a cauſe: and we do hereby will and require our generals and commanders of our forces, our commiſſioners for executing the office of high admiral of Great Britain, our lieutenants of our ſeveral counties, governors of our forts and garriſons, and all other officers under them, by ſea and land, to do and execute all acts of hoſtility in the proſecution of this war againſt the French king, his vaſſals, and ſubjects, and to oppoſe their attempts; willing and requiring all our ſubjects to take notice of the ſame, whom we henceforth ſtrictly forbid to hold any correſpondence or communication with the ſubjects of the French king: and we do hereby command our own ſubjects, and advertiſe all other perſons of what nation ſoever, not to tranſport or carry any ſoldiers, arms, powder, ammunition, or other contraband goods, to any of the territories, lands, plantations, or countries of the ſaid French king; declaring, that whatſoever ſhip or veſſel ſhall be met withal, tranſporting or carrying any ſoldiers, arms, powder, ammunition, or other contraband goods, to any of the territories, lands, plantations, or countries of the ſaid French king, the ſame being taken, ſhall be condemned as good and lawful prize. And whereas there are remaining in our kingdoms divers of the ſubjects of the French king, we do hereby declare our royal intention to be, that all the French ſubjects, who ſhall demean themſelves dutifully towards us, ſhall be ſafe in their perſons and eſtates.

Given at our court at St. James's, the twenty-ninth day of March, 1744, in the ſeventeenth year of our reign. God ſave the King.

had ſo lately experienced, to join with him, and perform their engagements! The addreſſes of the two houſes in anſwer to this ſpeech, were, as uſual, full of loyalty and affection. Geo. II. 1744.

Notwithſtanding the appearances of public unanimity, the government of Great Britain was at this time far from being eaſy. It was plain, that the exiled family had a great number of abettors in the kingdom, and that plots and machinations were on foot, though the authors of them had the addreſs to avoid being diſcovered. Upon nearer inſpection, the laws againſt treaſonable correſpondence were found to be very inſufficient, and that actually no law in being could puniſh correſpondence with the eldeſt ſon of the pretender. Mr. Fazakerley, an eminent lawyer, in the houſe of commons, and ſome other gentlemen, who never had been eminent for their attachment to the miniſter, therefore moved to bring in a bill, to make ſuch correſpondence treaſonable. This bill accordingly paſſed the houſe of commons; but when it came to the houſe of lords, it received great amendments; for, on the 27th of April, it was ordered by their lordſhips, "That it be an inſtruction to the committee, to receive a clauſe, for attainting any of the pretender's ſons of high treaſon, in caſe they ſhould land or attempt to land in Great Britain, or be found on board any ſhip or veſſel, with intent to land there." Bill, making it high treaſon to correſpond with the pretender's ſons,

The reader is here to be acquainted, that in an act of the 7th year of queen Anne, intitled, An act for improving an union of the two crowns, a clauſe was inſerted, "That after the deceaſe of the pretender, and at the end of three years after the ſucceſſion to the crown, on the demiſe of the queen, ſhould take effect, no attainder for treaſon ſhould extend to the diſinheriting any heir, nor prejudice the right or title of any perſon, other than the offender, during his natural life only."

As the pretender's eldeſt ſon ſtood now in the light, in which the pretender himſelf ſtood, at the time the above law was made, it was thought proper that the operation and effect of the above clauſe ſhould be ſuſpended, until after the deceaſe of the ſons of the pretender; the lord chancellor therefore moved, "That the committee be inſtructed to receive a clauſe, for continuing the penalty of treaſon upon the poſterity of thoſe who ſhould be convicted of it, during the life of the two ſons of the pretender to the crown; and that the bill, thus amended, ſhould be ſent down to the houſe of commons, for their concurrence." ſent to the houſe of peers, where it is amended.

Geo. II. 1744. The lord Bathurſt, according to this inſtruction, preſented the following clauſe: "And whereas, in and by the ſaid recited act of the 7th year of the reign of her ſaid late majeſty queen Anne, it is provided and enacted, That after the deceaſe of the perſon, who pretended to be prince of Wales, during the life of the late king James, and ſince pretended to be king of Great Britain; and at the end of the term of three years, after the ſucceſſion to the crown, upon the demiſe of her ſaid late majeſty, ſhould take effect, no attainder for treaſon ſhould extend to the diſinheriting any heir, nor to the prejudice of the right or title of any perſon or perſons, other than the right or title of the offender or offenders, during his, her, or their natural lives only; and that it ſhould and might be lawful to every perſon or perſons, to whom the right or intereſt of any lands, tenements, or hereditaments, after the death of any ſuch offender or offenders, ſhould or might have appertained, if no ſuch attainder had been, to enter into the ſame. Be it further enacted, by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid proviſion, ſo made by the ſaid laſt recited clauſe, ſhall not take place, or have any operation, force, or effect whatſoever, until after the deceaſes not only of the ſaid pretender, but alſo of his eldeſt, and all and every other ſon or ſons."

Great debates upon it.

The debates that happened in both houſes of parliament upon this clauſe, were, perhaps, as intereſting and learned, as any that ever paſſed in either houſe. The lord Bathurſt, who offered the clauſe, thought that jacobitiſm was far from being extinct in England, and that the French never would have made ſo vigorous and ſo expenſive an effort, as they had lately made in favour of the pretender, had they not been well aſſured of being backed by his party in Great Britain: and he obſerved, that though the old pretender was ſtill alive, yet that he had transferred all his rights to his ſon or ſons, which made it as neceſſary to provide againſt their pretenſions, as it was to provide againſt thoſe of the father. The lord chancellor, who ſpoke on the ſame ſide, obſerved, that if the pretender's family was extinct, no other family in Europe could have any conſiderable followers in Great Britain; and that there could be no ſafety to the preſent eſtabliſhment, unleſs the clauſe ſhould paſs.

They, who ſpoke againſt the clauſe, the duke of Bedford in particular, oppoſed it, as cruel towards unoffending poſterity, and dangerous to liberty. They thought it would intimidate all future oppoſitions to illegal meaſures, and prove the baſis of a future tyranny; in ſhort, they argued

gued againſt the extending laws in caſes of treaſon, as inhu- Geo. II.
man and unjuſt. They urged, that the confining the puniſh- 1744.
ments for treaſon to the life of the pretender, in the act of
the 7th of queen Anne, was an act of lenity and mitigation,
and that if the legiſlature had thought it proper that thoſe
penalties ſhould have been farther extended, upon the pre-
tender's having children, they certainly would have done it,
in the year 1709, when the act paſſed, the legiſlature
could not but think it extremely probable that he would
marry. They added, that the paſſing the clauſe, rendered
it, in effect, perpetual, at leaſt the ſame reaſon would ſubſiſt
for continuing it, as did for paſſing it, as long as the ſons of
the pretender ſhould have any poſterity alive. Laſtly, they
did not imagine there was any immediate neceſſity for paſſing
ſo ſevere a clauſe, conſidering the recent demonſtrations of
unanimous duty and affection which had been given by the
nation, and with which his majeſty declared himſelf perfectly
well ſatisfied.

All thoſe arguments, however, though enforced with
great powers of eloquence, by thoſe whoſe attachment to the
royal family could not be ſuſpected, were ſolidly and effec-
tually anſwered by the two lords, who offered and ſupport-
ed the clauſe, and by the lord Carteret, who ſhowed the
neceſſity of the clauſe, and that if it was not neceſſary, it would
be harmleſs. The biſhop of Oxford ſpoke likewiſe upon the
ſame ſide, and ſhewed, that it was founded upon the laws
both of God and man. He declared, that there was almoſt
no other guard againſt treaſon, than that affection, which
was impreſſed upon every man in all countries for their poſte-
rity, which, he ſaid, was next to inſtinct, and that in all
other caſes, as well as in thoſe of treaſon, children, though
ever ſo innocent, in ſome ſort or other always ſuffer for the
crimes of their parents. The duke of Newcaſtle likewiſe
ſpoke for the clauſe, and put the houſe in mind, that if the
pretender ſhould die at that time, no penalty could be inflict-
ed, but that of loſing his life, upon any man, who ſhould
join his ſon at the head of an army of Iriſh or foreign papiſts.
Upon the whole, the queſtion was carried, and the bill ſent
back to the commons, with the clauſe annexed to it.

There it received a much fuller diſcuſſion than it had done in the houſe of lords; and could the reaſons, upon which it was founded, have been overthrown, they muſt have been ſo by the lord Percival, (ſince earl of Egmont) member of parliament for Weſtminſter. All the ſtores of ancient hiſtory, Hebrew, Greek, Roman, and Engliſh, were ranſacked and

But the amendments paſs both houſes.

Geo. II. 1744. adopted by both ſides, but the reaſon of the thing carried the queſtion againſt both eloquence and learning.

The king's ſpeech at the end of the ſeſſion.

On the 12th of May, his majeſty, after paſſing the above bill, and others of no importance to this hiſtory, put an end to the ſeſſion by a ſpeech, importing the great preparations made by France on the ſide of the Auſtrian Netherlands, muſt convince all Europe of the ambitious and deſtructive views of that crown in beginning the preſent war; that it ſhould be his care, in conjunction with his allies, to purſue the moſt proper meaſures to diſappoint them, and to proſecute the war in ſuch a manner, as might be moſt effectual for ſecuring a ſafe and honourable peace: that his good friends the ſtates general had already, in purſuance of his requiſition, agreed to furniſh the ſuccours ſtipulated by their treaties; and he had received the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of their juſt ſenſe, not only of the common danger, but alſo of the inſeparable connection of their intereſts with thoſe of Great Britain, which his majeſty would not fail to improve, for the general good of the common cauſe. His majeſty earneſtly recommended to his lords and gentlemen in their ſeveral ſtations, to be vigilant in preſerving the peace and good order of the kingdom, promiſing himſelf they would ſeriouſly conſider that in the preſent conjuncture, they were particularly called upon by all the motives of duty and intereſt, to ſtir up and cultivate in the minds of his people, an hearty, and more than ordinary zeal for the maintenance and defence of their holy religion and excellent conſtitution againſt the malicious deſigns of their enemies." The parliament was then prorogued till the 21ſt of June, and by different prorogations, to the 27th of November.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Sea-fight off Toulon between the Britiſh and combined fleets—Trials of Matthews, Leſtock, and others concerned—Treaty of Frankfort between the emperor, king of Pruſſia, and other princes—That king's declaration in England—Diſſenſions amongſt the Engliſh miniſtry—King of Pruſſia invades Bohemia—Takes Prague—Prince Charles paſſes the Rhine—The French king puts himſelf at the head of his army in Flanders—He takes Menin, Ipres, Furnes, and many other ſtrong towns—French king goes with 40,000 of his army to Alſace—Continuance of the inactivity of the allies in Flanders—They march to attack Saxe, but fail—Cloſe of the campaign in Flanders.

IT was very fortunate for England, that the French Geo. II. ſcheme for invading her proved abortive. It had been 1745. laid very deep, and was connected with another, which had it proved ſucceſsful, muſt have given the French the empire of the ſeas.

The impatience of the queen of Spain at the difficulties her ſon Don Philip had encountered, became outrageous at the armaments of France and Spain continuing to be ſhut up in Toulon by the Britiſh admiral. The French, who wanted to huſband their marine, were not over fond of riſquing a battle with the Britiſh fleet. But after their defeat at Dettingen, and their diſgraces in Germany, they began to lend an ear to the court of Madrid, who propoſed, that the combined fleets ſhould, in all events, force their way out of the harbour of Toulon, and fight that of Great Britain. For this purpoſe a private treaty was entered into between the two crowns, by which France was to be indemnified for any aſſiſtance that ſhe afforded to Don Philip. It was likewiſe agreed upon, that if the combined fleets ſhould deſtroy that of Matthews, they had nothing farther to apprehend in the Mediterranean, and that they ſhould directly join that of Breſt, in forwarding the deſcent upon Great Britain; and it was with this view that Roqueville had put to ſea ſo early before the reſt of their expedition was ready, hoping every hour to be joined by the combined fleet from Toulon, or at leaſt by

Sea-fight in the Mediterranean.

38 Geo. II. 1745.

de Court's ſquadron, in caſe the ſtate of affairs in Italy could not ſuffer the Spaniſh ſquadron to leave that coaſt.

This project was judged the more feaſible, as they had certain intelligence that the Britiſh fleet was in a very indifferent condition, and that Matthews had ſent ſeveral repreſentations on that head both to his court and to the admiralty of England. So far back as the 21ſt of September the French had begun to careen their ſhips, and on the 30th of December certain intelligence arrived that the Breſt fleet was ſailed. Matthews was then at the court of Turin, where both in his marine and miniſterial capacity he had given great ſatisfaction to his Sardinian majeſty. He immediately concluded, that the combined fleet would attempt to ſail, and he diſpatched expreſſes for all the Engliſh ſhips, both in Minorca and other places, to join him with the utmoſt expedition. On the 11th of January following, he found himſelf at the head of the following fleet, viz. four ſhips of 90 guns, eight of 80, eleven of 70, and five of 60, being 28 ſhips of the line; beſides ten frigates, of which five were of 50 guns, two of 40, two of 20, and two fire-ſhips; in all 40 ſail, having on board 2,490 guns, 15,000 ſeamen, and 800 ſoldiers from Minorca.

It is probable that the French having intelligence of this great force, would have avoided an engagement; but the orders both [illegible] and the Spaniards had received were peremptory. Their whole force conſiſted of 28 ſhips of the line; one of them, the Spaniſh admiral's, mounted 114 guns, 9 were of 70, 13 of 60, and 5 of 50 guns each, with 6 frigates; and all their ſhips were clean and compleatly manned. On the 9th of February in the morning, the combined fleet came out of the harbour, and Matthews, who had intelligence of their deſign, made the proper diſpoſitions to engage them. The whole Britiſh fleet immediately got under ſail; and while the enemy were with difficulty forming themſelves into a line of battle, the Britiſh fleet continued plying to windward in the bay of Hieres, between the iſlands and the main land. But that night they anchored in the bay of Hieres.

The van of the Britiſh fleet was commanded by Mr. Rowley, rear-admiral of the White, the center by Matthews, who had been lately made admiral of the Blue, and the rear by Leſtock, who had been advanced to be vice-admiral of the Blue. By break of day they ſaw 15 ſail of the combined fleet, the reſt being concealed by the iſland Porquerole; and about ſeven, the Britiſh fleet advanced to meet the enemy, who

who ſtood towards them, but were hindered by the weather G. II.
from getting out of the bay in the diſpoſition that had been 1745.
ordered. A ſmall eaſterly breeze, however, ſpringing up, the two fleets neared each other, but it was night before Matthews could get near the enemy, having had the ſignal for all the day, and a good part of the night, for the line of battle, which ſeemed to be declined by the French admiral. By this time, however, the admiral loſt ſight of Leſtock and his ſquadron, which was full five miles aſtern of him, and the Spaniſh ſhips were aſtern of de Court, who ſtill avoided to engage Rowley, who was in the van of the Britiſh fleet. Matthews ſuſpecting that the French admiral intended to draw him down the Streights, where he might be reinforced by the Breſt ſquadron, and fearing that the whole of the combined fleet might eſcape him, determined to break through the form of a line of battle, and about twelve o'clock on the 11th, he made the ſignal for engaging, which was not repeated by vice-admiral Leſtock, though he had repeated all the preceding ſignals. Matthews himſelf bore down upon the Spaniſh admiral, and ordered the Marlborough to do the ſame. The action was begun within piſtol-ſhot: about half an hour paſt one, captain Forbes, in the Norfolk, engaged the Conſtant, the ſecond ahead of don Navarro, who ſoon bore away, and never ſhortened ſail while they could ſee her. The reſt of the admiral's diviſion ahead engaged more ahead; about two o'clock rear-admiral Rowley, and captain Oſborn in the Princeſs Caroline, engaged monſieur de Court and le Ferme his ſecond, with great obſtinacy, which prevented the French admiral from going to the aſſiſtance of the Spaniards. In the mean while admiral Matthews and the Marlborough had brought the Real to be a perfect wreck; but the Marlborough driving a little too near the admiral in the very heat of the action, obliged him to fill his ſails and go ahead, which he did with much difficulty, his maſts and rigging being greatly diſabled, and having very little wind, with an ugly ſwell. This misfortune left the Marlborough, who was aſſiſted by no other ſhip, engaged ſingly with perhaps the greateſt ſhip in the world; Cornwall, the captain of the Marlborough, after performing wonders, loſt both his legs and his life with a chain ſhot; and about three o'clock the Marlborough's main and mizen maſts were brought to by the board. The lieutenant, however, continued to fight bravely; but the Poder, a Spaniſh ſhip of 60 guns, obliged the Princeſſa and Somerſet to quit the line, while the Dragon, Bedford, Kingſton, Guernſey, and Saliſbury, continued the fire, but at too great a diſ-

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Geo. II. 1745. tance. This being perceived by captain Hawke in the Berwick, he bore down, and bravely engaging the Poder within half muſquet ſhot, ſoon diſmatted her, and obliged her to ſtrike. By this time Matthews made a ſignal for the Anne galley fireſhip to burn the Real, who ſtill lay as a hulk upon the water. But before the fireſhip could be got ready, four Spaniſh ſhips aſtern paſſed by Leſtock, and reinforcing the Spaniſh admiral, fired upon the fireſhip, which blew up when ſhe was within a cable's length of the Spaniſh admiral, and within her own length of the Royal Philip, another Spaniſh ſhip, which lay diſabled with her ſtern to the Marlborough. The admiral himſelf was at that time within muſquet ſhot of the Real, and was afterwards engaged within leſs than muſquet ſhot with the ſame four ſhips which Leſtock had ſuffered to paſs by him, and which raked the Namur, Matthew's ſhip, fore and aft for ſome time. About five o'clock the Marlborough was towed out of the line in a very diſabled condition, and then Matthews made the ſignal for the line ahead and wore round; but he was only followed by the Dorſetſhire, Eſſex, Rupert, and Royal Oak, which were aſtern of him; theſe, however, formed the line with the admiral, and engaged the Royal Philip and ſix other Spaniſh ſhips, which had got into a cloſe line with their admiral.

It is agreed, that the Spaniſh diviſion muſt now have been entirely deſtroyed had it not been for de Court, the French admiral, who with his ſecond continued to be cloſely engaged with rear-admiral Rowley and the Princeſſa. About three o'clock the French admiral made the ſignal for the van to tack, with an intention to put admiral Matthews between two fires. This obliged Rowley to tack likewiſe, to join the center of the Britiſh fleet, which upon the French tacking was in imminent danger of being deſtroyed; vice admiral Leſtock not having, during all this time, brought up his diviſion to reinforce it, which he might have done as eaſily as the four ſhips aſtern of the Spaniſh diviſion had arrived to ſave Navarro in the Real. The aim of the French ſeems to have been to diſengage the Spaniſh admiral, for they declined fighting four or five of the Britiſh van, which were ranged within piſtol ſhot; but they retook the Poder, which had ſtruck to captain Hawke. The Spaniſh and French ſquadrons being now joined, at half an hour paſt five the Britiſh admiral made a ſignal for his fleet to draw into a line of battle ahead, while the engagement continued very ſmart between the Namur and ſome other ſhips of the ſame diviſion, and the Dreadnought and ſome that had joined her. But night coming on,

on, the firing ceaſed on both ſides, and the combined fleet took that opportunity of towing all the crippled ſhips before the wind, and making the beſt of their way from the Britiſh fleet. Mean while, about eight at night, admiral Matthews was obliged to ſhift his ſhip, and hoiſt his flag on board the Ruſſel captain Long. By break of day he ſaw the enemy's ſh in his ſtern to the leeward; he chaced them again, the French lying in a line of battle to windward of the Spaniards, moſt of them hull to, but as he drew near them they made ſail, and left the diſabled 60 gun ſhip (the Poder). The admiral then ſent the Eſſex ahead, and ordered captain Norris to burn the ſaid Spaniſh ſhip (not being able to ſpare any of his ſquadron to carry her to Minorca) which captain Norris did, and ſhe blew up about half an hour after nine at night. Tho' the moon ſhone very bright, the Britiſh fleet, about ten o'clock, loſt ſight of the combined ſquadrons, and there being but little wind, admiral Matthews brought to, that the lernmoſt ſhips might get up with him.

Geo. II. 1745.

Thus far Matthews ſeems to have behaved with great perſonal bravery, and Leſtock, who kept aloof during the whole engagement, to have ſacrificed the honour and intereſt of his country to the meaneſs of reſentment. But Matthews, in his turn, ſeems to have been not wholly void of the ſame influence. For upon the combined fleet retiring in diſorder, Leſtock, with his diviſion, gave them chace, and was followed by the whole fleet; but juſt as Leſtock was in hopes of coming up with the enemy, and ſaw them actually towing off the Royal Philip, Matthews made the ſignal to leave off chace. Thus the combined fleet's eſcape was owing to the mutual averſion thoſe two commanders had for one another, and to the failure of duty in three of the diviſion under Matthews, who either did not engage, or did not properly engage the enemy, captain Burriſh of the Dorſetſhire of 80 guns, captain Ambroſe of the Rupert of 60 guns, and captain Williams of the Royal Oak of 70 guns. The combined fleets got upon the coaſt of Spain, where they ſeparated in a hard gale, the French diviſion putting, on the 16th, into Alicant, and the Spaniſh, next day, into Carthagena. There was, it ſeems, the ſame diſguſt ſubſiſting between the Spaniſh and French admirals, as between the two Britiſh admirals. The French was accuſed of having ſacrificed their confederates to the whole fury of the Britiſh fleet; and though it was plain that the Court had ſaved them from deſtruction, and in every reſpect had behaved like a brave and ſkillful commander, yet the Court of France was, to oblige that of Spain, forced to

Failure of Matthews.

diſgrace

Geo. II. 1745. disgrace him, though he afterwards was restored to his command, with circumstances of honour, and conviction of the wrong that had been done him.

who returns to Port-Mahon,

As four Spanish men of war, for want of hands, had been left at Toulon, Matthews was apprehensive hat the French, in his absence, might man them, and send them with transports and provisions to Italy; he was therefore extremely desirous of returning to his former station at Hieras bay, as being the station the most proper for the great business contained in his instructions. But finding this to be impracticable on account of the winds and weather, he was obliged to make away for Minorca, and on the 28th of February he anchored in Mahon harbour, purposing, that as soon as the great damage his ships had sustained was repaired, again to put to sea. The loss of the men in the engagement was not above 400 killed and wounded, but that of the enemy was upwards of 1000. The brave captain Cornwal, who was killed, had a noble monument afterwards erected to his memory, in Westminster Abbey by a vote of the British senate, and at the public expence; an honour his gallant behaviour well deserved. The captains Forbes, Osburn, and Hawke, had afterwards distinguished honours and preferments bestowed upon them suitable to their spirit, courage and conduct; as had rear-admiral Rowley, it being universally acknowledged, that had all the commanders of the British fleet, during that engagement, done their duties equally well, the Spanish squadron, if not the French likewise, might have been totally destroyed, and a glorious end put to the whole war.

Matthews had, it seems, some presage of what would happen; for he had long desired that either he or Lestock might be called home, and even charged the ministry with a stipulation he had made with them, that he should not be obliged to serve with Lestock in the same fleet. In the mean time, he sent Lestock some queries concerning his conduct; and they entered for some days into a kind of a paper war together. All that a reader not perfectly acquainted with sea terms can learn by it is, that Matthews, from an eagerness to engage the combined fleets, which he was afraid might escape him without any engagement at all, had been somewhat precipate in his attack, and irregular in his signals; and that Lestock, on that account, covered his backwardness in not coming up to engage, under the pretexts of observing discipline, and acquainting the admiral of such indistinctness of orders, that he did not know, or, to speak more properly, he

and questions and dismisses Lestock.

was

was not obliged to know, their meaning. Matthews, however, not being ſatisfied with Leſtock's anſwers and replies to his queries, ſent him a letter of ſuſpenſion till his conduct could be properly enquired into. Upon this Leſtock immediately ſtruck his flag, and ſailed in the Saliſbury from Mahon, and arrived at Spithead on the 24th of May. It muſt be acknowledged that his ſituation was particularly ſevere. He was in the eye of the diſappointed and enraged public a criminal, and the reſentment and prepoſſeſſions againſt him were daily gathering ſtrength. To add to this misfortune, when he came to Spithead, the ſhip he was in was obliged to perform quarentine; but he bore all with great patience and temper, and by his dexterity not only wrought himſelf clear of the charge, but directed it upon the head of his judge and accuſer. For at his earneſt intreaty a court-martial was ordered to be held to try him, and he had time allowed him to bring his witneſſes from the Mediterranean. The public thought that this delay was only intended to evade an inquiry, and to ſcreen ſome great men as well as Leſtock; and therefore, that there might be no neceſſity afterwards to reſume this matter, it is proper here to keep it entire to the end, that the narrative of this hiſtory may not be broke into. Geo. II. 1745.

In March following a motion was made in the houſe of commons, "That they would, in a grand committee of the whole houſe, enquire into the cauſe of the miſcarriage of the attack made in the Mediterranean on the joint fleets of Spain and France by the Britiſh fleets, which was ſuperior in number of ſhips to them both." This motion was made by major Selwyn, and ſeconded by Mr. Cornwall, brother to the captain of the Marlborough, who loſt his life. It was objected to by Mr. Pelham, as an incroachment upon the prerogative, and invaſion of the rights of other courts, as well as an entering upon an affair of which the majority, at leaſt, of the committee could not be proper judges; but as the queſtion was popular, and the intention of it regular, and as precedents were brought to ſhow that an houſe of commons had formerly entered upon enquiries of that kind, Mr. Pelham very wiſely withdrew his oppoſition, and the queſtion was agreed to unanimouſly. Motions upon the battle in the houſe of commons.

The trial of the delinquents coming now before a committee of the houſe of commons, greatly altered their ſituation, and Leſtock now found means to bring a countercharge againſt Matthews, who had reſigned his command to rear admiral Rowley, and had arrived in England the 19th of September preceding. It appears in the courſe of the committee's The enquiry is attended with great difficulties.

Geo. II. 1745. mittee's proceedings, that Mr. Pelham was well founded in the objections he had thrown out againſt it. Doubts multiplied upon doubts, facts upon facts, and evidences upon evidences, moſt of whom were brought from the Mediterranean, many of them had gone to the Eaſt or Weſt Indies, and every witneſs who could not be had, was pretended to be ſo material by the party who wanted him, that it would be unjuſt to proceed without his teſtimony. Beſides a vaſt number of ſeamen, upwards of thirty officers on each ſide from firſt to laſt was ſummoned to attend. The warmth of Matthews ſeems to have carried him too far in his charge. For he accuſed Leſtock not only of tampering with evidences, but of having been tampered with by the enemy. This laſt inſinuation received ſome colour of credit with his enemies; becauſe it was publickly ſaid in France, that in caſe of an engagement between the combined and the Britiſh fleets, Leſtock would not fight. But this was very naturally accounted for by his friends, from the knowledge which the French had of the irreconcileable hatred ſubſiſting between him and Matthews; and he himſelf, upon his defence, brought unanſwerable evidence to confute the charge. The enquiry, ſuch as it was, being over, Leſtock made an artful defence at the bar of the houſe, and Matthews an honeſt one, at in the houſe itſelf of which he was a member.

Notwithſtanding the pains that had been taken, and the time that had been conſumed, the houſe found themſelves as little ripe as ever for any determination; all they could do was to come to the following ineffectual reſolutions:

Reſolutions thereon.

"That the Britiſh fleet, at the time of the engagement, was ſuperior in force to the combined fleets of France and Spain."

"That the miſcarriage in that action reflected on the honour of his majeſty's arms, and was highly detrimental to the common cauſe, and to the intereſt of the Britiſh nation."

"That there was reaſon to apprehend, from the evidence laid before the committee, that this miſcarriage was owing to a miſconduct and miſbehavior in ſome of the commanders and officers of the Britiſh fleet."

In conſequence of thoſe reſolutions, a long debate ſucceeded. Some members, from ſeveral incidents that had lately happened, had a very indifferent opinion of all courts-martial, and thought the parties ought to be tried by a court ſitting under a ſpecial commiſſion from his majeſty, ſomewhat in the nature of a court of delegates; but this was judged both unconſtitutional and inconvenient; and it was reſolved,

To

To addreſs his majeſty, "that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to give directions that courts-martial might be held, in the moſt ſpeedy and ſolemn manner, to enquire into the conduct of admiral Matthews, vice-admiral Leſtock, captain Burriſh, captain Richard Norris, captain Williams, captain Ambroſe, captain Frogmore, and captain Dilk, in relation to the late engagement between his majeſty's fleet and the combined fleets of France and Spain off Toulon; as alſo of the lieutenants of his majeſty's ſhip the Dorſetſhire, then abroad, and of all other officers who were, or ſhould be, charged of any miſconduct in that action, and try them for the ſame: and that his majeſty would be pleaſed to appoint a proper perſon or perſons, to collect all the evidence neceſſary for the trials of the ſaid commanders and officers, and to proſecute them effectually; in order to bring thoſe to condign puniſhment through whoſe miſconduct it ſhould be found, that ſuch diſcredit had been brought upon his majeſty's arms, the honour of the nation ſacrificed, and ſuch an opportunity loſt of doing the moſt important ſervice to the common cauſe." Geo. II. 1745. Addreſs from the commons.

This addreſs being preſented by the whole houſe with the ſpeaker at their head, his majeſty was pleaſed to anſwer, "That he would give proper orders for the ſpeedy and effectual holding of courts-martial according to their deſire. That he was ſenſible how much depended upon preſerving an exact diſcipline in the fleet, and of the neceſſity there was of bringing to juſtice, ſuch as had failed in their duty on this important occaſion." His majeſty's anſwer.

Of all the delinquents mentioned in the above addreſs, the greateſt was captain Norris, who in the action commanded the Eſſex, a 70 gun ſhip, and behaved in a moſt cowardly manner. Being accuſed by his own lieutenants, he was protected by Matthews, who adviſed him to throw up his commiſſion; and a ſham court-martial being held upon him, he was acquitted, contrary to evidence, upon his father ſir John Norris's great power in the navy. The houſe of commons was moved for a copy of the minutes of the court, but he wiſely withdrew from any farther cenſure. This court-martial conſiſted of ſir Chaloner Ogle, preſident, rear-admiral Main, commodore Smith, the captains Parry, Windham, Chambers, Rentone, Allen, Franklin, ſir William Hewit, Colby, Layton, Homes, ſir Charles Molloy, Geary, Rodney, Erſkin, Pittman, Elliot, Sprag, Swanton, Stewart, and Orme. Caſe of captain Norris.

This court-martial was held at an immenſe expence, and to the great detriment of the public, the witneſſes being ſo numerous, Proceedings of the court-martial.

Geo. II. 1744. numerous, and all of them ſerving in the navy; but their ſervices were diſcontinued for their attendance upon the court. The diſtance between Chatham and London being likewiſe great, the court was removed to Deptford. After long and tedious examinations, captain Burriſh, of the Dorſetſhire, was declared guilty of part of the charge againſt him, in not doing his utmoſt to bear down upon, fight, or engage with the enemy in his ſtation; and the court unanimouſly adjudged him to be caſhiered, and rendered uncapable for ever of being an officer in his majeſty's navy. Captain Williams, of the Royal Oak, was found to have failed in his duty, by not being in a line with the admiral, and by continuing to the windward of the line during the greateſt part of the engagement, and not within diſtance to do proper execution during the greateſt part of the time he was engaged; but his eye-ſight being defective, and other circumſtances appearing in his favour, he was only adjudged to be unfit to be employed any more in his majeſty's ſervice; but he was recommended to the lords of the admiralty to be continued upon the half-pay liſt according to his ſeniority. Captain Ambroſe, though he had always before borne an excellent character, was found guilty of having had it in his power to engage cloſer than he did; but in regard that it ſeemed to proceed from an error of judgment, the court only adjudged him to be caſhiered from ſerving in the royal navy during his majeſty's pleaſure, and to be mulcted one year's pay to be applied to the uſe of the cheſt at Chatham.

Admiral Maine ſat as preſident of the court marſhal during the trials of admiral Matthews and vice-admiral Leſtock, the reſt of the board being compoſed of rear-admiral Byng, and fourteen other members. On the 3d of June 1746, Leſtock was honourably acquitted. The trial of Matthews was a matter of great expectation to the public; the reader will find in the notes[a] an abridgment of the charge brought againſt him, and of his anſwer to every article.

Theſe

Charges againſt Matthews, and his anſwers.

[a] I "That during the time the combined fleets of France and Spain continued in view, from the 8th to the 13th of February 1743, he did not ſummon a council of war, contrary to the conſtant practice, and in breach of his duty."

Anſ. "That the holding, or not holding, councils of war, is left to the diſcretion of the commander in chief, and not required by any rule or order in the navy."

II. "That he did not appoint proper ſignals, particularly that on

These answers of Matthews to the several charges brought against him by Lestock, were so little satisfactory, that after Lestock was acquitted, and after a prodigious number of witnesses

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the night of the 10th of February 1743, no signal was appointed to bring to, by which the windwardmost ships would have brought to first; or to keep the line, although the British fleet was bearing down on the enemy."

Ans. "That he made and appointed all the signals which he had ever received from the flags he had served under, and that a signal by which the windwardmost ships would have brought to first, would not have been necessary, if vice-admiral Lestock, and his division, had been in a line abreast, as they ought to have been; because there would have been no ship for him to run foul of."

II. "That, in the morning of the 11th, he sailed away with the center of the fleet, although the divisions of the vice and rear admirals were to the windward several miles, and the former astern; by which the said divisions had not time to come up and close the order of battle; and the distance between them and the center was increased, the latter still bearing down to the enemy, though the admiral sent a message to vice-admiral Lestock, acquainting him that he would lie by."

Ans. "Acknowledges that vice-admiral Lestock's division was, on the morning of the 11th, six miles to windward, and rear-admiral Rowley's a little to windward and ahead; declares that he did not begin to sail till the vice-admiral was under sail also; and that he did not make such way as to increase the distance between them; but often yawed the ship to and fro to give him time to come up; and absolutely denies that he sent the message mentioned in the charge."

IV. "That, on the morning of the 11th of February, the fleet not being formed in order of battle, pursuant to the signal, but the center being so separate from the two other divisions as above, he made the signal to engage, affording thereby an opportunity to the enemy of drawing the fleet to join battle at a disadvantage, by stretching to the southward, and gaining the wind."

Ans. "Admits he made the signal to engage, as set forth in the charge; but alledges that the line not being formed, was caused by vice-admiral Lestock's behaviour, who did not give orders to his captains to keep station over night, nor continue to sail the next morning; and that he could not delay the signal to engage without suffering the enemy to elude an engagement, the French being then edging away, and the Spaniards crowding to join them."

V. VI. "That he attacked the enemy contrary to the 19th article of the fighting instructions, irregularly and to great disadvantage."

Ans. "That he conformed to this article as long as it was in his power; and that he was at length necessitated either to depart from it, or not to engage at all,

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Sentence of the court-martial.

neſſes were examined, he was adjudged incapable of ſerving for the future in the royal navy. The public was aſtoniſhed at this ſentence, which ſeemed to be meant by the court as a warn-

all, by vice-admiral Leſtock's ill conduct; and that it appeared to him abſolutely neceſſary to engage as he could, in hopes to weaken the enemy before they were joined by the Breſt ſquadron, then hourly expected, which would greatly have endangered the Britiſh navy; and that this junction was thereby effectually prevented."

VII. "That after the engagement was begun, he deſerted the Marlborough, when ſhe was preſſed by the enemy, and after ſhe was diſabled ſent no ſhip to her aſſiſtance, which it was in his power to have done, keeping back from the fight with his whole diviſion contrary to duty."

Anſ. "That his ſhip being diſabled, he judged it proper to put himſelf in a condition to make fail ahead, and leave the ſeven ſail of Spaniſh ſhips to vice-admiral Leſtock's diviſion, which he inſiſts he was at liberty to do, the admiral commanding in chief not being tied down to any particular ſtation. That he did not deſert the Marlborough till he was in danger of her coming on board of him, which, conſidering the ſwell, might have been fatal to them both; and that he ordered the Dorſetſhire to aſſiſt her, who accordingly engaged the Royal Philip till ſhe bore away; and that he afterwards gave the Marlborough ſuch aſſiſtance as he could, tho' ſhe did not make proper ſignals of diſtreſs."

VIII. "That no more than five of the Spaniſh ſhips have been taken or deſtroyed within reach of the ſhips of which were diſpoſed by vice-admirals Norfolk, Berkeley, and Marlborough; and that although he had it in his power to have diſpoſed of the reſt of the fleet, as effectually to have deſtroyed the ſaid five ſhips, yet he ſuffered four of them to eſcape, by withdrawing from the engagement with fourteen ſhips under his command; and that he did not direct them to join in battle, nor did he puniſh thoſe captains who failed in their duty, or appoint others in their room."

Anſ. "Denies that no more than five of the Spaniſh ſhips engaged, and inſiſts there were ten: ſays, he cannot underſtand the aſſertion in the charge, that he might have diſpoſed the ſhips of his diviſion, ſo as to have deſtroyed the ſaid five ſhips; but blames vice-admiral Leſtock for not ſtopping the four which run away, and abſolutely denies that he connived at any breach of duty in the captains."

IX. "That he ſent the fire-ſhip to burn the Royal Philip, without giving the captain time to prime, or covering or conducting her while ſhe performed that ſervice, by which neglect the fire-ſhip was loſt without damage to the enemy."

Anſ. "Denies the whole charge, for he himſelf gave preparatory orders to the captain of the fire-ſhip at nine in the morning, and ſent orders to captain Burriſh to

cover

EARL GRANVILLE.

warning for ſuperior officers not to behave with haughtineſs or inſolence to their inferiors. Geo. II. 1744. Germany

cover her; but that the captain of the fire-ſhip neglected his ſignals, and blew up too ſoon."

X. "That ſoon after the fire-ſhip blew up, he cauſed the ſignal for the line of battle to be hauled down, and the ſignal to give over chace to be hoiſted, leaving a 60 gun ſhip, which had ſtruck to the Berwick, to be retaken, with twenty of her men, and one of the lieutenants on board; that he plied to windward the whole night of the 11th to avoid the enemy, without ſending cruiſers to obſerve the motions of their fleet, ſo that in the morning of the 12th, he was five or ſix leagues to windward of it."

Anſ. "That he was obliged to wear, to prevent putting the fleet into confuſion, and to make the ſignal for leaving off chace, to prevent the ſeparation of the fleet. That the Poder's being retaken was inevitable, as ſhe was totally diſabled, and there was neither time nor wind to take her in tow; nor did he hear that the ſaid ſhip had been taken till the next morning: that he ſtood to the northward to keep between the enemy and Toulon; and denies that he plied to windward to avoid the enemy; and alledges, that he could not ſend out cruiſers without expoſing them to be taken, the confederate ſhips being clean and his own foul."

XI. "On the 12th being in purſuit of the confederate fleet, which retreated now in order of battle, and perceiving the Spaniſh ſquadron ahead and to leeward of their confederates, four of them, one being the Royal Philip, appearing to be diſabled, and the latter in tow, the night being moonlight, the weather favourable, and the Britiſh fleet having the weather-gage, and being able to have kept in ſight of the enemy by making more ſail, as they appeared leſs and leſs perceptible, or ſhortning ſail as the whole fleet came up, he nevertheleſs brought to with the whole fleet under his command, and ſuffered the enemy, then flying, to eſcape."

Anſ. "Acknowledges that during the chace on the 12th, moſt of the Spaniſh ſhips were to leeward of the French, and that they did not appear to be in a regular line; that the Spaniſh admiral was in tow, and the Poder diſabled; but denies there were any more in that condition: admits that he gave over chace; but alledges as his reaſon for ſo doing, that on ſending out a ſhip of his ſquadron, the French bore away and ſtood for the Spaniards, who were then four leagues from him; that ſeveral of his own ſhips were diſabled, all of them foul, that he gained little on the enemy the whole day; and that he thought it better, in theſe circumſtances, to bring to, than to ſuffer himſelf to be drawn down the Streights and abandon the coaſt of Italy, which he had orders to preſerve, next to the deſtruction of the confederate fleet, and againſt which there was a formidable embarkation intended by Franc

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Affairs of the continent.

Germany was now evacuated by the French, but its peace was far from being reſtored. The head of the empire was no better than an illuſtrious beggar, ſtripped of his dominions, which were held by the queen of Hungary, who obliged his ſubjects to abjure his allegiance, and he himſelf living in exile upon a pitiful ſtipend furniſhed him by France, which was ſcarcely ſufficient to procure him the neceſſaries of life. As to her Hungarian majeſty, her ſucceſſes ſeem'd only to heighten her deſire of revenge, and ſhe made it no ſecret that ſhe intended to indemnify herſelf at the emperor's expence for the ſacrifice ſhe had been obliged to make of Sileſia. His Pruſſian majeſty, on the other hand, was extremely ſenſible that the queen of Hungary ſought only a favourable opportunity to retake what ſhe had been obliged to reſign, and he found it neceſſary to re-eſtabliſh the balance of power in Germany, as his own beſt ſecurity. The emperor, though poor and abandoned, was of great conſequence in his Imperial charac-

and Spain, of which he had received advice from the Britiſh miniſter at Paris and otherwiſe."

XII. "That as the Britiſh fleet drew near to the enemy on the 12th, they diſabled the 60 gun ſhip which had been taken by the Berwick, and retaken by the French, upon which he ſent captain Norris to burn her, whereas ſhe might have been preſerved for the king's uſe, by ſending a frigate with her to Minorca, eſpecially as ſhe had many valuable ſtores aboard, and her fore and mizen-maſts ſtanding."

Anſ. "Admits that though he might have ſaved this ſhip, yet he burnt her; but denies it to have been a breach of duty, though it was a ſacrifice of his private intereſt."

XIII. "That he gave the ſignal for giving over chace on the 13th, when vice-admiral Leſtock had given the ſignal for ſeeing twenty of the enemy, and at the ſame time was gaining on them very faſt, having the weather-gage and a freſh gale, which would have obliged the enemy to fight or have given up their ſhips."

Anſ. "Admits the ſignal for ſeveral ſhips, but the number does not remember; and that vice-admiral Leſtock might gain upon them; but affirms that no perſon in the ſhip could ſee them, even from the maſt head, tho' if they had he would not have purſued them for the reaſons above: and declares, that by this conduct he ſaved Italy, which was of more importance to the common cauſe than the taking the Royal Philip, which was all that could be expected from continuing the chace."

XIV. XV. "That he had been guilty of many breaches of duty, and was the principal cauſe of the miſcarriage of the fleet."

Anſ. "That he is not conſcious of any ſuch breaches of duty, and hopes to prove by his witneſſes that he was not the cauſe of ſuch miſcarriage."

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ter, and was a kind of a center of that union which his Pruſ- Geo. II.
ſian majeſty wanted to effect. 1744.

The treaty of Breſlau ſtill continued in force, but the vaſt preparations which had for ſome time been made by his Pruſſian majeſty, indicated ſtrongly that he had in view ſome mighty project. This became the more evident, by the earl of Hyndford, at his maſter's command, making a requiſition of thoſe troops which his Pruſſian majeſty was obliged to furniſh for the protection of Hanover. To this that monarch coldly replied, that Hanover was in no immediate danger, and therefore the Caſus Fœderis did not exiſt; and as a proof of it, he appealed to the conduct of the elector of Hanover himſelf, who had diſfurniſhed his electorate of its native troops, by putting them in the pay of England. It muſt be acknowledged, that the conduct of the queen of Hungary gave his Pruſſian majeſty too good grounds of jealouſy. He had, upon ſeveral occaſions, manifeſted his friendſhip and attachment for the emperor particularly in the oppoſition to the archbiſhop of Mentz in the caſe of the proteſts that have been already mentioned. He ſtill, however, pretended to adhere to the treaty of Breſlau, and ordered his miniſters at the diſferent courts of Europe to make declarations to that purpoſe. But he pretended, that in quality of a prince and elector of the empire, he could not ſee the Imperial dignity trampled upon, nor ſuffer the queen of Hungary to continue her ravages in Bavaria. In ſhort, he pretended that her Hungarian majeſty, by the treatment of the emperor, whoſe election ſhe diſowned, ought to be conſidered very little better than as a rebel to the empire; that the pales of the Imperial conſtitution had been broken down by the introduction of foreign troops into Germany, without the neceſſary requiſitions, and that it was plain the courts of Vienna and London were meditating projects inconſiſtent with the good of the empire.

Conduct and declarations of the king of Pruſſia.

Thoſe pretexts and recriminations were at firſt confined to verbal or epiſtolary conferences; but every day convinced his Pruſſian majeſty more and more of his danger. He had already received the inveſture of the principality of Eaſt Friezland, upon which his Britannic majeſty had ſome family claims; he ſtill entertained ſome uneaſineſs in regard to the Dutch, and he ſaw, notwithſtanding all the intrigues, threats, and harangues of the marquis de Fenelon, that the court of England was daily gaining an aſcendency in their councils. Prince Charles of Lorrain, who had lately married the queen of Hungary's ſiſter, the moſt beautiful princeſs in Europe, was preparing to attack France on the ſide of Alſace, at the head

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of a very great army. The Dutch had come to a reſolution of making a farther augmentation. The confederate army that had now marched back to the Low Countries, was in excellent order and impatient for action, and matters in Italy bore a very bad aſpect for the French and Spaniards.

He concludes the treaty of Frankfort with the emperor.

Such was the general ſtate of Europe when his Pruſſian majeſty, with moſt amazing ſecrecy, repaired to Frankfort, with the out-lines of a new treaty, in which the principal contracting parties were to be himſelf and the emperor, with as many other princes of the empire as ſhould chuſe to accede to the ſame.

The treaty at firſt had a very mild appearance, as if intended only to re-eſtabliſh the peace of Germany, and to vindicate the authority of the emperor. It was ſigned the 11th of May, but not publiſhed till ſome time after, and intituled, "A treaty of alliance and union between his Imperial majeſty, the king of Pruſſia, the elector Palatine, and the king of Sweden as landgrave of Heſſe." The treaty of Weſtphalia was to ſerve as the baſis of it; the Imperial authority and the tranquillity of Germany were to be reſtored. The contracting powers were to employ their good offices either to perſuade or to oblige the queen of Hungary to recognize the emperor's title, and to reſtore the archives of the empire, which ſhe ſtill detained, but above all, to evacuate Bavaria. The ſtates of the empire were to mediate a friendly compromiſe of all the differences about the Auſtrian ſucceſſion; and if that could not be effected, they were to be left to a juridical deciſion; but in the mean while, whatever might happen, a general amneſty in Germany was to take place. A common guaranty of all places in poſſeſſion of the contracting parties was ſtipulated, and if any of them were attacked, the others were to join in his defence till he ſhould obtain ſatisfaction.

Thus far the treaty of Frankfort had a harmleſs and, indeed, a laudible tendency. But ſoon after a ſeparate article, of a very different nature, was publiſhed by the court of Vienna, as containing the great ſecret of this alliance, which was very different from what their Imperial and Pruſſian majeſties pretended. The purport of this article was, in ſhort, a kind of defeſance of all the other articles, and imported, that as there was but too good reaſon for believing the court of Vienna would refuſe to conſent to amicable terms, according to the intent of the treaty, his majeſty the king of Pruſſia thought it indiſpenſably neceſſary to have recourſe to ſtronger and more effectual methods; and being always animated with a deſire of co-operating towards the pacification

tion of Germany, after mature reflection is of opinion, that a ſhorter and more deciſive expedient to that end cannot be made uſe of, than for him to promiſe and engage, as by the preſent ſeparate article he promiſes and engages, to take upon himſelf to make an expedition towards conquering all Bohemia, and to put his Imperial majeſty in poſſeſſion of that crown, and to guaranty it to him, for himſelf, his heirs and ſucceſſors for ever: his Imperial majeſty, touched with the moſt lively gratitude, does, upon that condition, for himſelf, his heirs and ſucceſſors, from this time, give up to his Pruſſian majeſty, irrevocably and for ever, in the ſtrongeſt and moſt authentic manner, the right which he has to the circles, lordſhips, and towns herein after-named, to wit, the town and all the circle of Konigſgratz, in its whole extent. Moreover his Imperial majeſty gives up to his majeſty the king of Pruſſia the circles of Bunzlaw and Leitmeritz, in ſuch a manner, that all the country ſituated between the frontiers of Sileſia and the river Elbe, and from the town and circle of Konigſgratz, to the confines of Saxony, ſhall belong to his majeſty the king of Pruſſia, in ſuch manner, that the courſe of the Elbe ſhall be the barrier of the two ſtates; thus the country which is ſituate on the other ſide that river, within Bohemia, ſhall remain to his Imperial majeſty, although it ſhould be appendant to the circles ceded to his Pruſſian majeſty, excepting the lordſhip and town of Partuwitz, and of the town of Collin, which his Imperial majeſty does from this time give up to the king of Pruſſia, his heirs and ſucceſſors for ever. His Imperial majeſty, upon the above-mentioned condition, engages himſelf, from the preſent time, to guaranty to his majeſty the king of Pruſſia, his heirs and ſucceſſors for ever, all the countries which he hath given up to the ſaid king of Pruſſia, or does give up by virtue of this preſent article; provided always that Bohemia, upon the foot that it is to remain to his Imperial majeſty, ſhall not be ever liable to be farther diſmembered in any manner whatſoever. Moreover, his Imperial majeſty, upon the above-mentioned condition, gives up to his Pruſſian majeſty irrevocably and for ever, to his heirs and ſucceſſors, in the ſtrongeſt, moſt ſolemn, and moſt authentic manner, the right which belongs to him in Upper Sileſia. He beſides engages to guaranty the ſame to him, his heirs and ſucceſſors for ever, as ſoon as his Pruſſian majeſty ſhall have conquered the ſame, and have taken poſſeſſion of it. In like manner his Pruſſian majeſty promiſes to guaranty to his Imperial majeſty, his heirs and ſucceſſors

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Geo. II. 1744. ceſſors for ever, Upper Auſtria, as ſoon as his Imperial majeſty ſhall have conquered the ſame, and taken poſſeſſion of it."

His charges againſt the queen of Hungary.

Though this ſeparate article was equivocally diſclaimed by the Imperial court, yet all Europe then, as now, believed it to be real, and the after-conduct of his Pruſſian majeſty ſufficiently eſtabliſhed its authority. His great object at this time ſeems to have been to reconcile his conduct to his good underſtanding with his Britannic majeſty. With this view he publiſhed a manifeſto, which was extremely conciſe and well drawn up, and which was printed in the London Gazette. In this paper he upbraided the queen of Hungary for her inflexibility, in rejecting the offers that had been made to her at Hanau; and after that, all the advances which the emperor likewiſe made; and in ſome paſſages, he was pretty ſevere upon the court of England for encouraging that inflexibility. He ſet forth, that he could be no longer an idle ſpectator of the troubles of Germany, but found himſelf obliged to make uſe of force to reſtore the power of the laws and the authority of the emperor. He then upbraids her Hungarian majeſty with the unexpreſſible cruelties that had been practiſed in the emperor's hereditary dominions, and charges her with an intention to ſubvert the liberty of the Germanic body. He affirmed, that the emperor's troops had been even attacked under the cannon of neutral Imperial towns, and that they had been forced to quit the borders of the empire, of which their maſter was the undoubted head. He affirmed, that the queen, by declaring as ſhe had done, the election of the emperor to be void, and the diet of Frankfort to be illegal, had not only violated the Imperial dignity, but had injured all the princes electors themſelves: that he had no particular quarrel with the queen of Hungary, that he deſired nothing for himſelf, and only entered as an auxiliary into a war to re-aſſert the liberties of Germany. That the emperor had offered to quit his pretenſion to the dominions of the houſe of Auſtria, provided his hereditary countries were reſtored to him, and that the queen of Hungary had, with repeated obſtinacy, rejected thoſe and all other equitable offers.

His declaration and reſcript publiſhed in England.

Such was the ſubſtance of this famous manifeſto or declaration, which was drawn up chiefly with a view to influence the people and parliament of England, whom he looked upon to be the chief ſupports of the queen of Hungary, to withdraw their aſſiſtance. This appeared the more plain, by a reſcript, which his Pruſſian majeſty ſent to Andrie, his miniſter

miniſter at London, and which he was to deliver and publiſh at the ſame time with the manifeſto. This was a very extraordinary piece, being drawn up with the greateſt art and preciſion by his Pruſſian majeſty's own hand. From that, it is extremely plain, he had been at great pains to ſtudy the ſtate of parties in England, and was well aware that there was in the Britiſh parliament a great number of members who diſapproved greatly of rejecting the offers made at Hanau. "I hope, ſays he, in one paſſage, however, that no judicious Engliſhman, nor any Briton that is zealous for the conſtitution of his country, can poſſibly miſtake the equity of my reſolution, as he may ſufficiently convince himſelf of it, by barely tranſporting on the theatre of England, what now paſſes on that of Germany; that as every true Engliſh patriot would look with indignation upon all ſuch intrigues as ſhould be carried on in his country, towards making the now reigning family deſcend the throne, in order to eſtabliſh the pretender there, and would oppoſe all ſuch practices with all his power; much more, there is no patriot or powerful prince of the empire, that can ſee with indifference, and cooly ſuffer another member of the empire, ſuch as the queen of Hungary, to endeavour to ſpoil of his dignity and authority, the emperor lawfully elected, in order to inveſt with that rank a candidate deſtitute of the qualifications that are moſt eſſential to fill the Imperial throne.—As in conſequence of the ſame principle, no German prince has a right to meddle with the internal policy of Great Britain, nor with the conſtitution of its government, I have ſome reaſons to hope that the Engliſh nation will not meddle with the domeſtic affairs of the empire.—And I entertain thoſe hopes the more, becauſe England has no reaſon to meddle with this quarrel, from any conſideration of its commerce or otherwiſe. And although it had a greater inclination for one German court than for another, yet I think it too unreaſonable to pretend, that ſuch powerful and reſpectable princes, as thoſe of the empire are, ſhould be obliged to rule their conduct upon the inclinations of thoſe amongſt the Engliſh, who ſtrive to make their countrymen enter into foreign quarrels, that are of no manner of concern to England." His Pruſſian majeſty then diſclaims all intentions of interfering, to the prejudice of England, in the quarrel ſhe was then engaged in; and promiſes punctually to pay to the very laſt farthing the debts of Sileſia, which he had taken upon him by the treaty of Breſlau.

Geo. II. 1744.

Miſtaken in the effects of it.

Geo. II. 1744. This manner of addreſſing ſubjects inſtead of their king, in a country where the prerogative of making peace and war is veſted intirely in the crown, was thought in England to be far from decent, and to carry with it a very ugly intimation. His Pruſſian majeſty did not find it anſwer his ends. For tho' the people of England may at certain times oppoſe their government, they are far from being paſſive, if they think their ſovereign meets with diſreſpect from any other power. All parties, excepting thoſe who were deſirous of ſeeing their country embroiled in civil war, treated this declaration and expoſition of his Pruſſian majeſty, as having an oblique tendency that way; and the indignation they conceived, was a means of quelling a moſt violent paper war, which broke out about the ſame time, againſt the miniſters, who had adviſed his majeſty to reject the overtures for peace, which had been made at the conferences of Hanau.

It appeared, however, that the rejection of thoſe terms were, in fact, not owing to the councils of the Britiſh miniſtry, but to the immoderate and avowed deſire which her Hungarian majeſty had, either by ſecularizing ſome rich biſhopricks, or by keeping poſſeſſion of Bavaria, or by the fate of war, which was now turned greatly in her favour, to obtain ſome equivalent for her ceſſion of Sileſia. She even in the moſt public manner diſclaimed all knowledge of what had paſſed at Hanau, and ſaid, that the offers of the Emperor were only with a view of gaining time, and ſome reſpite from his ruined circumſtances, till the court of France and he were once more in a condition to fall upon the houſe of Auſtria.

Conduct of the court of England.

The court of England had, at that time, a very delicate conduct to obſerve. The empreſs of Ruſſia, upon whom his Britannic majeſty had great reliance, as a friend to her Hungarian majeſty, was, by treaty, obliged to furniſh him with 12,000 Ruſſian troops; and lord Tyrawly, the Britiſh miniſter, at Peterſburgh, had orders to make a requiſition of them about the middle of June, which, had it been complied with, might have been of great ſervice to her Hungarian majeſty. But Beſtuchef, the prime miniſter of that court, in the name of his miſtreſs, evaded the demand. On the other hand, the declining ſtate of the emperor's health induced the court of Vienna to apply to his Britannic majeſty, to ſecure the election of the great duke, her Hungarian majeſty's huſband, to the Imperial throne, in caſe of the emperor's demiſe. The court of Saxony appeared to be well diſpoſed for that purpoſe, as did the electors of Mentz and Cologn;

Cologn; but, the prodigious expence, which England had already run into, in a quarrel, which a great part of the nation began now to think was become foreign to them, rendered even the moſt ſanguine of the Britiſh miniſtry cautious, at that time, of embarking farther, without a certain proſpect of ſucceſs. This diffidence was encouraged by ſome of the greateſt names in the nation, who were not ſo averſe to the meaſures which the miniſter had planned, as they were that he ſhould carry them into execution. The ſupport of the national credit, which was, at this time, very high, was viſibly owing to the high opinion the public had of the board, where Mr. Pelham preſided; and Mr. Pelham had connections with his brother and other great perſonages, to which, next to his own conſpicuous candour, he owed his influence. As they and he therefore were in a manner ſureties to the public, for the application of the money that was raiſed, and as every ſervant a king of England has, is within his own particular department of buſineſs, accountable to parliament for whatever ſhall happen, they could not ſee the whole machine of government actuated by one man; and they thought the meaſures that had been privately laid down, might be carried farther than was conſiſtent either with the nation's good, or their own ſafety. The reader will ſoon perceive the effects of thoſe diſpoſitions.

Geo. II. 1744.

Diviſions amongſt, and ſtate of the miniſtry there.

The courts of Verſailles and Vienna had, by this time, mutually declared war againſt one another, as principals. There is nothing in their reſpective declarations that can be of importance to this hiſtory, except their mutual recriminations, which have already been exhibited. The king of Poland, elector of Saxony, was at this time the moſt capable of aſſiſting the queen of Hungary. But, as has been already hinted, the diviſions in the Britiſh miniſtry prevented him. He had a price, and the miniſtry thought it unreaſonable, that Great Britain ſhould unſeaſonably augment her expences. The ſtates-general were applied to, who offered to pay one third of the ſubſidy for a large body of Saxon troops, to be taken into the queen of Hungary's ſervice, and added to 12,000, which, by a late treaty concluded at Dreſden, his Poliſh majeſty had agreed to furniſh to the queen of Hungary. The Britiſh government thought the proportion of this expence offered by the ſtates-general, was too ſmall, and that it ought to be two parts in five. The miniſter, who had depended upon the elector of Saxony for preventing the irruption of the king of Pruſſia into Bohemia, inſiſted ſtrongly upon the neceſſity of the juncture, and that ſaving

Saxony neglected.

Geo. II. 1744. ſaving time was gaining every thing, but he could not prevail.

King of Pruſſia invades Bohemia.

His Pruſſian majeſty, whatever the opinion in Great Britain was of the Saxon troops, at this time certainly deſpiſed them, and proceeded in a manner that ſhewed it. For, though there were in Saxony upwards of 40,000 regular troops, he choſe to make his invaſion of Bohemia through that electorate. It is true, he made uſe of the formality of demanding a free paſſage through it from the regency; but before an anſwer to this demand could come from the elector, who was then in Poland, his Pruſſian majeſty entered the electorate, at the head of 84,000 men, commanded under himſelf, by the prince of Anhalt Deſſau and marſhal Schwerin, with ſixty pieces of heavy cannon and thirty mortars. So irreſiſtable a force would have probably made its way through all oppoſition, but it met with none. Beſides this body, which entered into Bohemia about the 12th of Auguſt, another, under general Marwitz, conſiſting of 20,000 men, advanced through Sileſia into Moravia; and though the Auſtrians had taken all imaginable precautions to retard the march of both armies, by deſtroying the roads, bridges, and proviſions, the Pruſſians ſoon were in poſſeſſion of Pardubitz, and Podiebrad; and the whole of the army being aſſembled on the frontiers, the king took up his head-quarters at Peterſwald, and emitted a declaration, importing, that he had marched into Bohemia as an auxiliary to the emperor, and to reſtore his authority, the conſtitution of the empire, and the peace of Germany. He promiſed, by the ſame declaration, protection to all the inhabitants of Bohemia, who ſhould behave quietly and inoffenſively, and deliver up their arms, but threatened thoſe who ſhould reſiſt his, which he affected to call the Imperial auxiliary army, with all the rigours of military execution. After a very little oppoſition from the court of Vienna, which ſeemed to be ſtunned by the boldneſs and rapidity of his meaſures, he inveſted Prague itſelf on the 2d of September, N. S. He found ſome difficulty of bringing up his heavy artillery, and met with ſome loſs from general Feſtititz, at Beraun, which he attempted to take poſſeſſion of. His heavy cannon, however, being come up, Feſtititz was repulſed in his turn, and the ſiege of Prague was opened with inconceivable vigour. It was defended by general Harſch, with a garriſon of 13,000 regular troops, but the ſeverities and cruelties that had been practiſed by the Auſtrian government upon the laſt retreat of the French from the place, had alienated from her Hungarian majeſty

His progreſs.

majeſty the affections of many of the inhabitants. General Bathiani at the ſame time was encamped at Plaſs, with 30,000 men, and greatly incommoded the Pruſſians in their forragings and excurſions. The fire of the Pruſſian artillery, however, and the mutinous diſpoſition of the inhabitants, ſoon obliged the commandant of the place to demand a capitulation. He could have none, but by himſelf and the garriſon ſurrendering themſelves priſoners of war. The firing, therefore, recommenced with greater fury than ever; two attacks were formed on the weſt ſide of the Moldau, one of them commanded by the king in perſon, and the other by general Truſches: a third attack was commanded on the eaſt ſide by marſhal Schwerin, and two practicable breaches being made, the Pruſſians prepared to give a general aſſault to the place, when the garriſon ſurrendered themſelves priſoners of war. But in order to take in the whole operations of this campaign in Germany, it is now neceſſary to attend the motions of prince Charles of Lorrain. Geo. II. 1744. He takes Prague.

All the preceding winter had been employed by the court of Vienna, in making preparations for prince Charles to paſs the Rhine, and by the French in preparing to defend it. This was a glorious and well-concerted ſcheme, and might have been ſucceſsful, had it not been for the irruption of the Pruſſians into Bohemia. Fifty thouſand French, extending from Spires almoſt to Mentz, were commanded by marſhal Coigni, and watched the Pruſſians motions; and an army of 30,000 men was formed, under Belliſle, to cover the frontiers of Lorrain, in caſe that prince Charles ſhould, contrary to all expectation, be able to paſs the Rhine; and thoſe two armies were ſo poſted, that they might occaſionally join together, and likewiſe be aſſiſted by a body of 12,000 Bavarians, under marſhal Seckendorff, who had taken poſſeſſion of Philipſburg, and were intrenched under the cannon of that Imperial fortification, with which the French kept a communication, by means of a bridge over the Rhine. This conduct of the Bavarians was interpreted by the Auſtrians as a breach of the emperor's neutrality, and reſented accordingly. The conduct of prince Charles, by the marches and counter-marches that he took, not only harraſſed the French and Imperialiſts, but rendered it very doubtful to them, whether he really intended to paſs the Rhine, or to amuſe them till he could ſend a conſiderable body of his troops to the aſſiſtance of the allies in Flanders. In the mean time, count Daun, by a very maſterly operation, made himſelf maſter of the iſle of Heron, lying upon the Rhine, a league Succeſſes of Prince Charles of Lorrain.

Geo. II. 1744. a league above Openheim; and prince Charles, by a variety of amuſing marches and operations, covered his true intention ſo well, that the Bavarians were prevailed upon to quit their almoſt impregnable ſituation under the cannon of Philipſburg, and retire over the Rhine. This gave the Auſtrian general Nadaſti an opportunity of paſſing the Rhine in pontoons, at Schreck, the active baron Trenck, with his pandours, leading the way, and being followed by about 4,000 Auſtrians. Upon intelligence of this, and underſtanding from Nadaſti, that a bridge would ſoon be finiſhed at Schreck, prince Charles ordered a large body of troops to advance from Neudorff and Strockſtadt, and theſe ſupported the workmen, employed by Nadaſti, upon the bridge; ſo effectually, that the main body of the Auſtrians had paſſed over about the 2d of July.

The Auſtrians paſs the Rhine.

Baron Trenck, as he had been the firſt to paſs the river, was the firſt who improved the advantage, by attacking and routing a body of Bavarians, and plundering their tents, before they had time to recover from their conſternation. While prince Charles was thus happily effecting this amazing paſſage of the Rhine at Schreck, he had intelligence from general Berenclau, that he had been able to paſs the ſame river with all his corps at Strockſtadt, near Weiſenau, and that his troops had attacked the French with ſo much fury, that they had abandoned the town of Openheim, and after loſing their magazines, were retreating, in the utmoſt diſorder, to Worms.

By this time, general Nadaſti, who had an advantageous camp near Leirnerſheim, by orders of prince Charles, attacked the important poſt of Lauterberg, which capitulated on the 5th of July; the garriſon marching out with military honours, but under an engagement not to act for a year againſt the queen of Hungary or her allies. The French then attempted to ſeize the lines of Weiſſenburg; but were prevented by general Nadaſti, whom prince Charles diſpatched at the head of 60,000 Auſtrians, and who took poſſeſſion of the place, with an immenſe booty. Prince Charles no ſooner heard of this important acquiſition, than he ſent a reinforcement of 4,000 men to Nadaſti, who was now threatened to be attacked in Weiſſenburg, by the main body of the French and Bavarian army, under marſhal Coigni and count Seckendorff. This was a deſperate attempt of the French general, but he had no other method of retrieving his communication with France, which, by the Auſtrians paſſing the Rhine, had been intirely cut off. Accordingly, the

They take Weiſſenburg.

the place was attacked by 40,000 French and Bavarians, and though Nadaſti, whoſe corps was now about 12,000, made a moſt deſperate defence, the confederates carried it. But a junction being by this time effected between general Berenclau and prince Charles, notwithſtanding all the attempts of Montal, a French general, who had been diſpatched with 20,000 men towards Worms, to prevent it, the French and Bavarians found themſelves obliged to abandon Weiſſenburg, and to retire towards Haguenau, in order to cover Alſace. In their march they were greatly harraſſed by Nadaſti, who had made a gallant retreat from Weiſſenburg, and were obliged to intrench themſelves in the lines of Haguenau, and other lines upon the Rhine, but to ſo much diſadvantage, that all the Lower Alſace was open to the incurſions of the Auſtrians, and king Staniſlaus himſelf with his court were obliged to leave Lorrain. The Auſtrians, upon this occaſion, made a moſt unmerciful uſe of their ſuperiority, by the contributions they exacted, and the ſeverities they inflicted, in revenge of what they and their fellow-ſubjects had ſuffered from the French in Germany.

Geo. II. 1744.

Prince Charles, who had all this time his head-quarters in or near Lauterberg, about the 13th of July detached general Berenclau, with 6,000 men, to beſiege Fort Louis, a ſmall fortreſs, lying on an iſland, in the Rhine, but one of the ſtrongeſt in Europe, and of infinite importance to the French. The French attempted to reinforce the garriſon, but were defeated by the Auſtrians, and in this and all the other bloody ſkirmiſhes, which had happened after the Auſtrians had paſſed the Rhine, no quarter was taken or received amongſt the common men on either ſide. At laſt, Fort Louis was entirely inveſted by Berenclau, but through the heavy rains that fell, and overflowings of the Rhine, he was obliged to abandon the ſiege, about the time when the affairs of the French and Bavarians were ſo deſperate, that they were retiring under the cannon of Straſburg. Prince Charles, however, and his army ſtill continued to make a great booty, and had formed a ſcheme of operations, which, had it not been timely diſcovered to the French and Bavarian generals, muſt have infallibly ruined their army, by attacking them in their lines, behind the Motteir, but they were ſaved, by decamping ſuddenly in the night, between the 28th and 29th of July, and retiring behind the Sar. They could not prevent, however, Prince Charles and the Auſtrian generals from making a vaſt progreſs in the country, which they continued to lay under contributions, and the event might

Danger of the French and Bavarians.

Geo. II. might have been fatal to France on that ſide, had not her
1744. affairs taken a new turn, which makes it neceſſary now to purſue the operations of the war in Flanders, that the military operations in Bohemia, Alſace, and the Low Countries, may terminate into one point of the reader's view, and that he may be able to judge how far the operations in one theatre of war, influenced thoſe on another.

The courts of Verſailles, Vienna, Berlin, and Frankfort, continued to fill all Europe with the ſtrongeſt profeſſions of their love to peace, while they were filling it with all the horrors of war. The indeciſion of the Dutch gave the French vaſt advantages, by intimidating the Britiſh miniſtry from ſeconding ſo vigorouſly, as they ought to have done, his majeſty's diſpoſitions, for ſupporting the common cauſe.

Dilatory conduct of the Dutch,

Mr. Trevor, the Britiſh miniſter at the Hague, laboured in vain to remove this indeciſion, by preſenting memorials, and holding conferences with the deputies of their High Mightineſſes; but he received only fair promiſes of what they would do, if their farther endeavours for peace ſhould prove ineffectual. The ſtates-general themſelves could not be perſuaded, that thoſe delays brought death to the common cauſe, and that the French wanted only time to bring all the force they could in the Low Countries againſt their barrier. They aſked from his Britannic majeſty the liberty of employing, according to treaty, their good offices with the court of France, for ſuſpending its operations, till ſome expedient could be found out for bringing about a general peace. They offered immediately to fulfil the ſtipulations of the treaty of 1678, which Mr. Trevor, by order of the king his maſter, required of them to do; but, ſaid they, in their anſwer of 3d of April, "We hope that your majeſty will not take it amiſs, that, before we explain ourſelves thereupon, we take the method pointed out by that ſame treaty, endeavouring by our offices, to bring about an equitable accommodation between the parties at war, before we proceed farther. To this end, we have reſolved to ſend forthwith a miniſter to the court of France, whom we have already named, and whom we will diſpatch without loſs of time. And as the order and conſtitution of our government does not permit us to come to a final reſolution, in an affair of this importance, without conſulting the ſtates of the provinces, which compoſe our republick, we will not delay a moment to inform them of the contents of your majeſty's letter, and to preſs them to explain themſelves thereupon."

who ſend to negotiate with France.

In

In conſequence of this notification, count Waſſenaer was deputed to treat with his moſt Chriſtian majeſty. By this time, the French army, which was to invade Flanders, was aſſembled in the neighbourhood of Liſle; and it was known, that the French king intended to open the campaign in perſon, at the head of 120,000 men, with a train of artillery, conſiſting of 160 pieces of battering cannon, 100 field-pieces, and a great number of mortars, of which, 40 threw bombs of 500 lb. weight. Geo. II. 1744.

Ever ſince the death of cardinal Fleury, the French king had affected to take upon himſelf a great ſhare of buſineſs. He was far from being deſtitute of capacity, and had as much public virtue, as any prince born and educated in arbitrary principles, can well be ſuppoſed to poſſeſs. He was, at that time, in the vigour of manhood: he had an only ſon, the dauphin, who was juſt fit to carry arms; his troops of late had received many diſgraces and more loſſes, which, by Noailles, his ſoundeſt general, was attributed to the want of military diſcipline amongſt them. Nothing could retrieve that ſo effectually, as the preſence of the king himſelf; and juſt as he was ready to take the field, count Waſſenaer, the Dutch ambaſſador, laid before him his credentials. This miniſter had formerly been known perſonally to the French king, and had ſome credit with him, on account of his inſinuating manners. Lewis heard what he had to propoſe in general, but referred particulars to his miniſters, telling him, in the mean time, "that finding his moderation had been abuſed by the members of the ſtates-general, he was reſolved, the more he had delayed to declare war, the leſs to ſuſpend its operations."

The French king puts himſelf at the head of his army in Flanders.

It was the 1ſt of May when the French monarch arrived at his army, in the neighbourhood of Liſle, attended by marſhal Noailles, as a perſon equally fit for the operations of the cabinet, as of the camp. But the great general for the executive part of war, that Lewis was now determined to employ, was count Saxe, natural ſon to the late king of Poland. He has been ſeveral times mentioned in the courſe of this work, and in the ſubſequent part of his conduct, he fully anſwered all the expectations that Lewis had formed of him.

Character of marſhal Saxe.

The allies take the field.

When it was publicly known that Lewis was arrived at his army, the allies took the field. They ought to have conſiſted of 22,000 Britiſh, 16,000 Hanoverians, 18,000 Auſtrians, and 20,000 Dutch. But they were not only weakly commanded, but divided amongſt themſelves, and

Their ſtrength,

Geo. II. 1744.

deficient in their numbers. Wade, who had now an advanced age added to his other defects, commanded the Engliſh and Hanoverians. He had a hearty diſlike for Aremberg, who commanded the Auſtrians, and who had now ſo great credit both with his Britannic and her Hungarian majeſties, that he was inveſted with the ſupreme command. Count Maurice of Naſſau, deſcended from the family of Orange, commanded the Dutch; but though he had himſelf good inclinations, he was fettered up by inſtructions from his principals, who were ſtill in hopes to ſucceed in the methods of mediation and negotiating. Lewis the XVth continued with vaſt ſucceſs the new character he had aſſumed. He wanted to ſurprize the world by his talents for buſineſs, by applying to the affairs of the cabinet, with an aſſiduity, equal to that of any of his miniſters, and he now applied in the ſame manner to the affairs of the field. He was encouraged in this by Saxe, whom he made a marſhal of France, and his perſonal appearance at the head of his troops, undoubtedly had a prodigious effect.

and commanders.

Diviſions amongſt them.

The confederate generals, inſtead of acting with that ſpirit, which became the cauſe they were engaged in, ſpent the time in immaterial debates about points of diſcipline and precedency. Aremberg, who had a great eſtate in the neighbourhood of the armies, was for ſparing it as much as poſſible, and after giving his opinion in a council of war, he generally retired to his bottle, where he was inacceſſible to all but a few intimates. Wade, finding himſelf out-voted in all deliberations, ſpent his time in railing againſt his brother-generals, in writing letters, and drawing up remonſtrances, in juſtification of his own opinions; and prince Maurice had nothing to do, but to cultivate the inactivity which ſprung from ſo much diſſention.

The French king, by means of the Dutch, whom he ſtill pretended to careſs, had private intelligence of all that paſſed in the allied camp, and profited by it. On the 7th of May, count Saxe met with no oppoſition in making himſelf maſter of Courtray, which, in former times, had withſtood conſiderable armies. He ſeized, at the ſame time, upon Harleberg and Warneton; and the French monarch, to demonſtrate to Waſſenaer, the Dutch ambaſſador, that he was fully in earneſt to carry the war into the very vitals of the republick, if ſhe did not abandon the cauſe of the allies, formed the ſiege of Menin, at the head of 40,000 men, while count Saxe took poſt at Pont D'eſpierre. The place was one of the maſter-pieces of Vauban, the greateſt genius

The French take Menin,

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the French ever had in the art of fortification, and might have made a good defence. The French king knew that it would be given up; but to furniſh the garriſon with ſome pretext of ſurrendering, he directed in perſon the attacks, which were very furious, and on the 4th of June, (the trenches being opened on the 1ſt,) the place capitulated upon honourable terms, after coſting the beſiegers no more than 40 men, though the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene acquired honour by taking it in 14 days, and loſing before it about 3,500 men. Geo. II. 1744.

Ipres.

During the ſiege of Menin, count Clermont, at the head of 40,000 French, inveſted Ipres, which was defended by the prince of Heſſe-Philipſtal, a man of honour. He had no more than 2,500 men to defend the place, which required at leaſt 8,000 to defend it. The French fired upon it from 120 pieces of cannon, and 40 mortars, and the attacks were occaſionally directed by the king himſelf. On the 9th of June, being the 9th day after the trenches were opened, the French aſſaulted and took a horn-work, and three days after, they made themſelves maſters of the covert-way, upon which, they carried the lower town, after it had been abandoned by all but a few officers and ſoldiers, who were made priſoners. On the 15th, the place being no longer tenable, the garriſon capitulated upon honourable terms, by being permitted to march out with 6 pieces of cannon, 4 mortar-pieces, and 100 waggons, each drawn by 4 horſes, and obtaining advantageous terms for the inhabitants.

Mount Caſſel, and other places in Flanders,

The conqueſt of Ipres, which coſt the French no more than 3,600 men, and which was eſteemed one of the ſtrongeſt places in Flanders, was attended by their poſſeſſing themſelves of the Mount Caſſel, Baileul, Rouſſelaer, Poperingen, Warneton, Commines, and Warwic. The French had been ſo long ſtrangers to conqueſt, that their joy, upon this occaſion was immoderate. Fort Knoque was ſurrendered to, upon the 17th of June, by its governor, baron de Hom[illegible], who had under him a garriſon of 1000 men, all Dutch. Furnes, after a feeble reſiſtance, fell into their hands on the 28th of the ſame month, being ſurrendered by its Dutch governor, baron Schwartzenberg. The French king then ordered the fortifications of Menin to be demoliſhed, as a mark of his contempt of the Dutch, who had done ſo much to provoke, and ſo little to hurt him, and made a kind of a triumphal entry into Dunkirk. It is certain, that no prince was ever better ſerved than he was in this campaign. The prince of Clermont, a deſcendant of the great Conde, though

and Furnes.

Geo. II. 1744. though an eccleſiaſtic, diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the poſts of greateſt danger. The marſhal Saxe lay ſtill at Courtray, and encamped with ſo much judgment, that he covered all the ſieges that were undertaken, and overawed the allies. The marſhal Noailles was equally uſeful in the council and the field. One of the moſt formidable trains of artillery ever ſeen, was commanded and directed by a regiment of 5000 able men, moſt of them artiſts and engineers themſelves, and the monarch, as it was the firſt campaign he had ever undertaken in perſon, was extremely liberal to all his troops, who diſtinguiſhed themſelves by their courage or conduct.

French artillery formidable.

Inactivity of the allies, The allied army, during all this amazing progreſs of the French, obſerved a ſhameful inactivity. Frequent councils of war were held, but nothing was concluded upon. As ſoon as a meaſure had been propoſed by one party, and accepted of by another, the third pulled out of his pocket inſtructions from his principals not to act, and then the whole fell to the ground. It is true, the Auſtrians and Dutch fell very ſhort in their contingents, which gave Wade ſome colour for his inactivity. There likewiſe prevailed amongſt the Engliſh troops a notion, that the Dutch would not act, which was increaſed, when they ſaw Waſſenaer, the Dutch ambaſſador, continue to treat with the French king, even while he was taking and demoliſhing the fineſt towns of their barrier. Upon the French taking poſſeſſion of Courtray, the whole allied army was ſtruck with conſternation, and Wade detached immediately three regiments of dragoons, and ſix companies of grenadiers, under lieutenant-general Campbel, to ſecure Ghent, which was poorly provided in a garriſon, and its magiſtrates ſuſpected to be under French influence. Aremberg's ſcheme was to aſſemble the army in the neighbourhood of Mons, in order to cover Hainault, and to prevent the French from forming the ſiege of Mons, which they threatened to do. Wade oppoſed this ſcheme, which, he ſaid, was principally calculated for protecting Aremberg's own eſtate, which lay on the frontiers of that province; and ſtuck cloſe to the defence of Flanders, as being the main object to be attacked by France, and defended by Britain. But Aremberg's credit was ſo great, that the Britiſh troops, garriſoned in Ghent and Bruſſels, aſſembled at Anderlicht, in the neighbourhood of Bruſſels, and being there joined by the Hanoverians, their whole force did not amount to half that of the French.

who reinforce Ghent.

Aremberg's deſign.

Allies encamp. On the 19th of May, being the day after the detachment was ſent to Ghent, the allied army encamped between Aſche

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and Aloſt, and was there joined by four battalions, ten companies of grenadiers, and ſixteen ſquadrons of Dutch, the whole not amounting to above 9000, though Aremberg, when he was in England, had undertaken to bring into the field 16,000 of his miſtreſs's troops: as for the remainder of the 20,000 Dutch, they were made uſe of in ſtrengthening the garriſons of Mons, Aeth, Charleroy, and other places on the frontiers, which were ſoon after taken by the French. Geo. II. 1744.

By this time, count Saxe made a motion, which tended to ſurprize Oudenard; upon which baron Couriere, an Auſtrian general, was ſent to ſecure it with ſix companies of grenadiers, and the regiments of Stirum and Ligne. On the 1ſt of June the allied army left their camp at Aſche, and on the 4th they began to lay bridges over the Scheld at Gavre. It was here they were aſtoniſhed with the news of the rapid conqueſts the French were making; and to prove how very bad their intelligence was, though the capitulation of Menin was ſigned upon the 4th of June, it was not known in their camp that the place was taken till the 7th, though they were at the diſtance of no more than three leagues from the town, and though they were commanded by a native of the country. Upon the 22d the Britiſh general encamped his troops in one line along the Scheld, with their right lying between Virſte and the mill of Gavre, and the left from thence to Meyleghem. The Hanoverians encamped ſeparately on the left of the Britiſh in one line, likewiſe ſtretching from Ermleghem to Ename Abbey, where the Auſtrian encampment began, and extended to Oudenard, as the Dutch did from Oudenard to Melden.

Motions of the French and allies.

Bad intelligence of the latter.

This was certainly a good diſpoſition for guarding the paſſage of the Scheld; and as the chief magazines lay at Ghent, the country furniſhed waggons for bringing in forrage. This ſituation, however, was expenſive to the empreſs queen and her ſubjects, and therefore diſagreeable to Aremberg, who propoſed to march and make a diverſion in favour of prince Charles, or give the enemy battle. This propoſal was objected to by general Wade and prince Maurice, and Wade reproached the Auſtrian general with the deficiencies of his miſtreſs's contingent. It is thought, with good reaſon, that the French policy failed them in not falling upon the allied army while they were ſo weak, inſtead of beſieging towns, which, had they beat the allies, muſt have fallen of courſe into their hands. The court of England was ſenſible of this, and did all in their power to induce her Hungarian majeſty, as well as the Dutch, to exert themſelves more effectually.

Propoſal of Aremberg.

Geo II. 1744. tually. In order to ſet them an example, four regiments were ſent over in the beginning of July, three of which marched to Ghent, and the fourth went into garriſon at Oſtend. The Dutch ſeemed at laſt to be touched with their danger, and rouzed into ſome reſentment at their barrier being in a manner broken down. Mr. Trevor, the Britiſh miniſter at the Hague, continued to ply them with ſtinging memorials in his maſter's name, and even went ſo far as to hint at a poſſibility of an interruption of the harmony that ought to ſubſiſt between the two powers, if they did not ſhew themſelves more punctual in performing their engagements. All his remonſtrances, however, were in vain, till their High Mightineſſes felt the French thundering at the gates of their republic, and then they ſent eleven battallions and twenty-two ſquadrons immediately to join the allied army, and the garriſons to be drained of as many of the 20,000 formerly voted to aſſiſt the queen, as could be conveniently ſpared.

Regiments ſent from Britain.

The Dutch reinforce their troops.

While thoſe reinforcements were upon their march, the allied army made ſeveral removes and encampments that are immaterial to be mentioned here; but, at laſt, certain accounts arrived of prince Charles having paſſed the Rhine, and of the rapid progreſs he was making in Alſace. This event brings the reader to that point already mentioned, from which he will be enabled to connect together the widely extended operations of the war.

The French defeated in Alſace, which occaſions the French king to go and head them.

For while prince Charles was making his progreſs in Alſace, he heard of the irruption into Bohemia, and the taking of Prague by the king of Pruſſia. The French armies at this time had abandoned the Sar, and had encamped under the cannon of Straſburg, one of the ſtrongeſt fortifications in Europe, while the Auſtrians fortified themſelves at Druſenheim, and repaired ſome bridges there, to keep up their communication with the emperor. But the news of the Pruſſian irruption deſtroyed all the proſpect prince Charles had of conquering Lorrain, and he ſoon found other and ſtronger reaſons for deſiſting from his conqueſt. For no ſooner did the king of France hear of prince Charles's progreſs, than he reſolved to abandon all the advantages he had gained over the allies in Flanders, and to march in perſon to the relief of Alſace at the head of 40,000 men, which he drew out of Flanders, leaving marſhal Saxe with the remainder to cover the conqueſts he had made.

Motions of the allies.

The retreat of the French king from Flanders with ſo great a body of troops, and the junction of the Dutch, Britiſh, and Auſtrians with the main army, left marſhal Saxe far inferior

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in number, and in goodneſs of troops, to the allies. Not withſtanding this, the allies made no efforts, or but faint ones, to attack the French general, who though he was now obliged to keep on the defenſive, yet conſtantly was ſending out parties from behind the Lys to the very borders of the Scheld, where they inſulted the allies, without one Britiſh or Hanoverian party croſſing that river. This ſhameleſs inactivity confounded the court of England, which ſent expreſs upon expreſs to put life into their inanimated general. This produced ſeveral councils of war, in which Aremberg, who was always averſe to the allied army continuing in Flanders, propoſed again to ſend off 20,000 men towards the Moſelle, in order to give a diverſion in favour of prince Charles, and with the remainder to face count Saxe. But this propoſal, which was far from being an unlikely one to ſucceed, was rejected by the Britiſh, Dutch, and Hanoverian generals. Geo. II. 1744.

To ſave ſome appearances, however, upon the 29th of July, the quarter-maſters general of the allied army paſſed the Scheld, and marked out a camp, into which their whole army marched by the 31ſt; and on the 1ſt of Auguſt the 6000 Dutch troops that were returning under general Smitſaert from England, joined the main army. It was now imagined all over Europe, that the allies were determined to attack Saxe in his camp behind the Lys. But unfortunately they found that he was too ſtrongly intrenched; and the quarter-maſters general having reconnoitred the borders of the Lys, and the neighbourhood of Tournay, reported the country to be too cloſe and too much cut, for encamping, and furniſhing too little water. Upon this, the army took the great road of Oudenard to Tournay, and encamped with its right about Kerkhove, its left towards Hillchin. On the 5th of Auguſt a grand council of war was held, and an exact intelligence being now obtained of the poſition of Saxe's army, it was found to be covered in the front by Courtray and the Lys, and the right and rear by the Heule, but that his camp was entirely open between Menin and Ipres. Upon this a reſolution was taken to attempt a paſſage between Liſle and Menin, and to attack Saxe where his camp was open. In conſequence of this reſolution, the whole army marched on the 6th of Auguſt by the left in three columns, one of the artillery and baggage, by the cauſeway of Tournay, and the other two by roads made by pioneers, and encamped beyond Pont-Eſpieres, with the head quarters at Chateau-la-Bie. Next day the generals of the allies had ſome reaſon for ſuſpecting that count Saxe had diſcovered the plan of their operations,

They paſs the Scheld. N. S.

Their operations.

Poſition of Saxe's army.

The allies march to attack it.

Geo. II. 1744. rations, for they were alarmed with an account that count Saxe had paſſed the Lys. Upon this all detached parties were called in, and the army marched to Tournay in the ſame order as the day before. An unlucky miſtake, however, happened in this march, by the firſt column breaking into the ſecond, by which the latter loſt half a day's march; which, had Saxe with his army, as was reported, been near, might have been of the moſt fatal conſequence.

The right wing of the allies marched by the cauſeway from Tournay towards Liſle on the 8th in two columns, followed by the artillery and baggage, and by midnight arrived on the borders of the Marque, while the left wing continued their march directly over the Marque by Pont-a-Bouvine; and two days after the right paſſed the Marque likewiſe.

but are without heavy artillery.

It is almoſt inconceiveable that ſo fine and numerous an army as the allies now had, ſhould be deficient in heavy artillery; the Britiſh train, which was what they principally truſted to, being ſuffered all this time to lie at Oſtend. Notwithſtanding this, it was now in their power to have ruined the French army under Saxe. and, unprovided as they were with heavy artillery, to have taken Liſle itſelf, where the garriſon was very weak, and a few red-hot bullets thrown into the town, would have made the inhabitants oblige it to ſurrender.

Wade preſſes to fight Saxe.

Though Wade was weak and unenterprizing, yet he had ſentiments of honour, and was aſhamed at the behaviour of the other generals. He propoſed to follow the plan that had been agreed upon, that of croſſing the Lys, and attacking Saxe; but the Dutch declined that, as being more than, as auxiliaries, they were obliged to do.

Other propoſals.

The ſieges of Maubege and Landrecy were propoſed, but the propoſal was rejected by the Dutch likewiſe; though it is certain that both thoſe important places were then garriſoned by no more than two battalions in each. They were now, however, in the enemies country, which ſeemed to be all that Aremberg d[illegible], and ſome contributions were levied. Saxe himſelf was [illegible]upid afterwards to own, that he gave even Liſle up for loſt. He had drained its garriſon to ſtrengthen his own army, and he made no queſtion that the allies would, the moment they paſſed the Marque, attack it. It was garriſoned by no more than two battalions of militia and one of regulars, which conſidering the vaſt extent of the works, was not ſufficient to furniſh even the neceſſary guards for their poſts. When he ſaw the allied army, however, ſpend ſome time in the neighbourhood without attacking it, he ventured to ſend ſome troops to reinforce

Saxe reinforces Liſle.

inforce the garriſon, though he ſcarcely thought they could be able to throw themſelves into the place. But they entered the 11th of Auguſt, without any obſtruction from the allies. Geo. II. 1744.

Wade ſtill continued to preſs the execution of the original plan of attacking Saxe in his camp; and urged upon his brother generals their own agreement to it. But he found that he was tied up to obſerve the directions of Aremberg, whoſe credit at Vienna was greater than his was at London. The army now lay with the right at Teſſin, the centre at St. Ghin, the left at Frettin, and the head quarters at Anſtain, but the cavalry ſo diſadvantageouſly encamped, that had not Saxe kept himſelf entirely upon the defenſive, he might have ruined it. While the allied army thus lay encamped in the enemies country, the generals made a moſt magnificent diſplay of its ſtrength, by drawing it out in order of battle. It conſiſted in the whole of 71 battalions, 114 ſquadrons, 6 free companies, and 12 ſquadrons of huſſars. Of theſe, 22 battalions and 29 ſquadrons were Britiſh, 13 battalions and 31 ſquadrons were Hanoverians, 8 battalions and 10 ſquadrons were Auſtrians, and 28 battalions and 44 ſquadrons were Dutch. Motions of the allied army.

It was with the utmoſt indignation that the people of England, from poſt to poſt, were diſappointed in their expectations of hearing that ſomething of importance was undertaken by ſo fine an army. But the whole month of Auguſt was ſpent, almoſt without a ſkirmiſh, in foraging and reviews. At laſt, a camp was marked out near Orchies, to which the army never marched. Its inactivity continues.

General Launy had been detached from Anſtain with 1500 cavalry to guard the Scheld and the canal of Bruges, and his command was now reinforced with a detachment of 300 men; but the whole being too inconſiderable for covering ſuch an extent of country, marſhal Saxe ſent a ſtrong body of troops under prince de Pons, which forced a paſſage over the canal, and penetrating into the country of Waes, brought off an immenſe quantity of forage and contributions. Upon this the generals of the allies were obliged to detatch 8 battalions, 14 ſquadrons, and 8 pieces of cannon under the command of the lieutenant-generals Chanclos and Smitzart, and major-general Sinclair, to protect the country from the like incurſions. Motions of the French.

The allies were now forced to remove towards the left of Liſle for the conveniency of forage; and though they were poſſeſſed of the town of Lanoi, which lay between them and marſhal Saxe, yet they ſuffered themſelves to be inſulted by

Geo. II. 1744. the French, who in one night carried off forty of their train horſes about half a league from their camp; and they attacked a guard that was marching to relieve that at Lanoi, and cut in pieces, or made priſoners, an advanced party of thirty men.

Theſe and many other ſuch inſults, obliged the generals to ſend out two detachments of 400 men each, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Greenwood, and lord Robert Bertie, to diſlodge the enemies partiſans from their haunts; but they were unable to come up with any of them. At laſt the trouble of bringing in forage grew ſo great, and the places from whence it was brought were ſo diſtant, that vaſt numbers of their horſes fell into the enemy's hands, and the others ſuffered ſo much, that it was reſolved to repaſs the Marque. The allies no ſooner were decamped, than the ground they had occupied was taken poſſeſſion of by the enemy. On the 29th the army marched to the camp at Trocorne, the rear guard, which was commanded by lieutenant general Ilton, major-general Onſlow, and brigadier general Churchil, conſiſting of the grenadiers and Highlanders, broke the bridges, and took up the pontoons without any moleſtation from the enemy. But they made priſoners 100 men, who were poſted in a farm by lieutenant-general Hawley, where they were to remain till farther orders, which never were ſent them.

The allies return towards Ghent.

The diſſenſions amongſt the commanding generals became now more public than ever. Cromſtrom and the Dutch generals were for immediately marching back to Ghent; and Aremberg, without any previous conſultation with Wade, ſent baron Gemmingen to acquaint him, that the Auſtrian and Dutch troops were to march thither. Wade ſaid, that returning to Ghent, was putting an end to the campaign; they admitted it was. But Wade ſtill thought that ſomething more might be done. Upon their returning towards the Scheld, count Saxe advanced with 14,000 troops to Pont-à-Eſpieres, with an intention to attack the rear of the allies in their paſſage; and Wade had early intelligence both of his march and ſituation, and had laid a plan for attacking him, to which count Maurice, who was then at Tournay, agreed. Could Wade's pride have ſuffered him to have deſcended to a perſonal interview with Aremberg, a glorious end might ſtill have been put to the campaign; but inſtead of that, he ſent a copy of his intelligence to Aremberg, who having been carouſing after dinner, thruſt the letter under his pillow, and forgot to read it till next day. Having read it, inſtead of marching

Indolence of Aremberg, who miſſes an opportunity of deſtroying him.

marching directly againſt the enemy, the army was ordered to halt, and a council of war was held. During this time the quarter-maſter general of the Auſtrians and Dutch fell in with Saxe's grand guard and routed it, which together with the halt of the army, gave Saxe an intimation that his deſign was diſcovered, and he immediately drew off his army in ſo much confuſion, that he left behind him twenty-five pieces of cannon, which might have fallen into the hands of the allies had they marched on that day; for the French did not carry them off till night. But the council of war delayed the attack till next morning, and the intermediate time was ſpent in laying bridges over the Scheld for the paſſage of the army. Next morning, however, though it was publickly known that Saxe was gone, diſpoſitions were made for attacking him; the advanced guard being formed of the grenadiers of the whole army, and the rear brought up by the cavalry. But no enemy appearing, the allies paſſed Pont d'Eſpieres. Geo. II. 1744. Sep. 30, 31. March of allies.

Nothing remarkable happened after this, till 600 Britiſh troops took poſſeſſion of Deynſe, while a camp was marked out facing the Lys. It being apprehended that the French intended to attack Deynſe, general Zaſtrow was ſent with the picquets to reinforce it; but the apprehenſion was groundleſs. Mean while the Dutch and Auſtrians, according to their firſt plan, marched towards Ghent, and encamped between the Lys and the Scheld. It was the 15th of October before the Britiſh army croſſed the Lys in four columns; one paſſed through the town of Deynſe; the ſecond, being cavalry, paſſed on a bridge of pontons at Bachten; a third, being infantry, at Deurlod; and a fourth, being the artillery and baggage, paſſed through Ghent to the camp at Drongen. The weather, about this time, proving exceſſively ſevere, the Britiſh troops were ordered into winter-quarters. The horſe at Bruges, the dragoons and infantry at Bruges, Ghent, and Oudenard[a]. October 7. who goes into winter-quarters. 19, 20.

[a] The reader, it is to be hoped, will excuſe the minuteneſs with which the tranſactions of this campaign, inglorious as it was, have been related. But it is done with a view of removing from the Britiſh nation the obloquy which its inactivity occaſioned, and to ſhew that it was owing to Dutch and Auſtrian conduct. The tranſactions here related, are taken from undoubted authority, and moſt of them from the papers of officers, ſome of them generals, who ſerved in the campaign.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

The French king's ſickneſs and recovery—The Auſtrians repaſs the Rhine—The Pruſſians driven out of Bohemia—Character of count Bruhl—The emperor re-eſtabliſhed in Bavaria—The French beſiege and take Friburg with great loſs—War in Italy—French force the entrenchments of Villa Franca and Mont Alban—They take Demont—Battle of Coni—King of Naples joins the Spaniards—Attack of Velitri—Account of commodore Anſon's expedition.

Geo. II. 1744.

AT the time the French king left Flanders to fly to the defence of his dominions in Alſace, he ordered Belliſle to advance thither with 15,000 men from the Rhine; and on the 4th of Auguſt he entered Metz, the capital of Lorrain, where he had ordered his troops to rendezvous, and where he was met by general Schmettau, on the part of his Pruſſian majeſty, to concert the future operations of the cabinet as well as of the field. The great deſign of Schmettau was to perſuade the French king, by all means, to riſque a battle with prince Charles before he ſhould repaſs the Rhine, and to conſent to the forming of two armies, one for reſtoring the emperor to his dominions, and the other to advance towards Hanover, to oblige that elector once more to agree to a neutrality.

The French king arrives at Metz, where he receives propoſals from Schmettau.

Upon the 2d of Auguſt, the mareſchals Belliſle and Coigni joined together, and in a few days after the duke de Harcourt, who commanded a ſeparate corps, arrived on the frontiers of Alſace; and the two mareſchals being joined by Noailles, who commanded the whole, the French had a manifeſt ſuperiority in the field. Prince Charles, however, Daſti, and other Auſtrian generals, made a gallant defence, nor durſt the three mareſchals attack him, though they were at the head of 116,000 men, which gave them a ſuperiority of 45,000 above the Auſtrians; but in the mean time an accident happened which, perhaps, greatly contributed to the caution of the French generals.

Motions of the French in Alſace.

Their great ſuperiority of ſtrength over the Auſtrians.

The French king falls dangerouſly ill,

The French king had been little inured to the fatigues of the field, and had ſought to alleviate them by the pleaſures of the table. He was attended by all his miniſters and inſtruments of luxury; and the hurry of his journey from Dunkirk

kirk to Metz, with the agreeable proſpect of affairs on the ſide of Bohemia, had ſuch an effect upon his ſpirits, that on the 8th of Auguſt he felt ſome ſymptoms of a fever, which increaſed ſo much, that on the 14th his life was deſpaired of. The queen and the royal family immediately poſted to Metz, where they arrived on the 17th, juſt as the diſeaſe of his majeſty began to take a favourable turn. Geo. II. 1744. but recovers.

Prince Charles of Lorrain waited till the 23d of Auguſt, with his army drawn up in order of battle, in hopes the French would attack him, which, to the amazement of all Europe, they did not. He then made the proper diſpoſitions for a retreat, which he effected with very little loſs. One of his advanced poſts, conſiſting of a company of grenadiers and 2000 hats, under count Daun, whoſe advanced poſt towards the enemy formed the rear of the Auſtrian army as they marched towards the Rhine, was attacked near the village of Selſenheim. But that general, who has ſince given ſuch amazing proofs of his military talents, ſoon recovered the diſorder into which his troops were thrown by the fury of the attack, and retreating in good order towards the main army, brought up the rear in their paſſage over the Rhine, and burned the bridges as he paſſed. This paſſage, effected in the face of an army ſo much ſuperior, without loſs, and almoſt without danger, was judged to be as inglorious to the French as the inactivity in Flanders had been to the generals of the allies. The Auſtrians had enriched themſelves with the contributions they had made in Alſace and Lorrain. They had cut in pieces upwards of 9000 of the French and Bavarians, without themſelves loſing above 1500. The Auſtrians retreat, and are attacked, but repaſs the Rhine.

As to prince Charles, he purſued his march with incredible expedition towards Donawert, and cut off the communication between the Imperial army under count Seckendorff, and the Pruſſians in Bohemia, where they had behaved with great rigour. To recount minutely all the operations of war in Bohemia, is not the intention of this hiſtory. It is ſufficient to ſay, that after the reduction of Prague, the king of Pruſſia made himſelf maſter of Tabor, Budweis, and Frauenberg with very little loſs, and ſoon became maſter of all Bohemia to the eaſt of the Moldau. finds the king of Pruſſia in poſſeſſion of Bohemia.

In the mean while the queen of Hungary, though, as uſual, ſhe was ſtunned at firſt with the rapid progreſs of her enemy, receiving a ſeaſonably ſupply of money from Britain, had great reſources. The elector of Saxony, by means of his Britannic majeſty, renewed all his engagements with her, and fulfilled them with the greateſt honour; but her chief reſource King of Poland ſtands by the queen of Hungary.

Geo. II. 1744.

ource lay in the affections of her faithful Hungarians, to which kingdom ſhe again repaired in perſon, attended by her huſband, upon an invitation from the ſtates. The diet was then ſitting, and her majeſty freely yielded every thing they demanded, and particularly a farther indulgence to the proteſtants. The whole nation once more grew unanimous in her defence; and old count Palfy, the palatine of Hungary, cauſed the great red ſtandard of the kingdom to be hoiſted, as the ſignal for every man in the nation who could bear arms, to take them up. Orders were immediately given for diſtributing arms amongſt the inhabitants, and a body of about 44,000 men immediately took the field, while another body of 30,000 held themſelves in readineſs as a reſerve. This amazing unanimity of a people ſo divided among themſelves, eſpecially in point of religion, as the Hungarians are, could only be effected by the addreſs of Maria Thereſa, who ſeemed to poſſeſs one part of the character of Elizabeth of England, that of making every man about her a hero. We have, in this reſpect, a true picture of her character in a letter ſhe wrote to old Palfy, with a preſent of her own horſe richly capariſoned, with a gold hilted ſword ornamented with diamonds, and a ring of conſiderable value, which letter may not be improperly inſerted here.

Loyalty of the Hungarians.

See vol. xx. p. 520.

Remarkable letter of the queen to Palfy.

"Father Palfy,

"I ſend you this horſe worthy of being mounted by none "but the moſt zealous of my faithful ſubjects; receive at "the ſame time this ſword, to defend me againſt mine ene"mies; and take this ring as a mark of my affection for "you.

"Maria Thereſa."

The Hungarian army being put in motion, the king of Poland, elector of Saxony, ordered 16,000 of his troops to take the field as auxiliaries to her Hungarian majeſty, with orders to march into Bohemia, and there to join with the Auſtrians, whoſe army under prince Charles by this means amounted to about 90,000 men. The event was, the king of Pruſſia loſt poſt after poſt in Bohemia. He made, indeed, a faint attempt to diſpute the paſſage of the Elbe, but with no effect; the army after this continued in a retiring, if not a flying, poſture, and loſt upwards of 30,000 men, with all their baggage, heavy artillery, and carriages, which were ſtored with proviſions and plunder. His Pruſſian majeſty's affairs being thus deſperate, he ordered his general Einſidale, the governor of Prague, to nail up the cannon, and ſpoil the arms and the arſenal there, to throw the powder and other war-

The Pruſſians driven out of Bohemia.

like

like ſtores into the Moldau, to ſpring two mines that were Geo. II.
deſigned to blow up part of the fortifications, and to evacu- 1744.
ate the city with his garriſon, which conſiſted of about 11,000 men. All this was performed as effectually as the ſhortneſs of the time could admit of, and the Pruſſians continued their retreat with equal precipitation and loſs towards Sileſia. The ſeverity of the ſeaſon, it being then in the middle of December, added to the miſeries of the Pruſſians, who were dragged by whole battalions, half dead, out of the ſnow, by the Bohemians and Auſtrian peaſants, and after being ſtript of their cloaths were left to periſh in the cold. In ſhort, Bohemia was ſuddenly evacuated, as it had been rapidly conquered. with immenſe loſs.

The reader, perhaps, may be ſurprized, that the greateſt general and the wiſeſt politician of his age, ſhould have been compelled to ſo diſaſtrous and ſo inglorious a retreat, after the prodigious and almoſt bloodleſs advantages he had gained, and after making himſelf maſter of the moſt impregnable places in Germany. The anſwer is ſhort. He was deceived by the French: he thought, with great appearance of reaſon, that an army ſo vaſtly ſuperior as theirs was to that of prince Charles, would not have ſuffered him to repaſs the Rhine, without diſabling him, at leaſt, from going upon any other expedition, eſpecially upon one attended with the utmoſt fatigue and difficulty. He had been encouraged by the French to believe, that the elector of Saxony would be perſuaded to join in the league of Frankfort. With this view he had prevailed with the emperor to promiſe to make him a preſent of his nomination to a cardinal's hat, which his Pruſſian majeſty intended to have the glory of beſtowing upon the jeſuit Quirini, confeſſor to the queen of Poland; but his great dependence was upon Bruhl. This nobleman, without any viſible merit, and with immoderate extravagance in all the luxuries of life, had gained, over his maſter's affections, an aſcendency ſcarcely to be paralleled in hiſtory. His magnificence in building, cloaths, equipages, furniture, and ſeraglios, greatly exceeded that of his ſovereign; and his countenance was the only paſs-port to royal favour. His Pruſſian majeſty was ſo ſenſible of this, that he promiſed he ſhould be made a prince of the empire. But Bruhl, by daily experience, was convinced, that ſuch a principality was dangerous as well as precarious, and that the Britiſh ſubſidies were much readier ſupplies for his luxury. He therefore adviſed, or rather directed, his maſter to ſtick cloſe to his engagements with the queen of Hungary. There are certain ſtations of life to which a great mind may not be equal. His Pruſſian majeſty's diſappointments, made him, perhaps,

Cauſes of the king of Pruſſia's deſpondency.

Character of count Bruhl.

Geo. II. 1744. perhaps, deſpair too ſoon. He ordered Schmettau, who ſtill continued about the French king, to make the moſt bitter complaints againſt Noailles; but receiving very little ſatisfaction, he even applied by letters to prince Charles, as thinking the treatment he had received from the French, juſtified his entering upon an accommodation with the queen of Hungary; and he was the rather inclined to do this, as he had reaſon to believe that his uncle, the king of Great Britain, would be far from being averſe to become a mediator between them. But the inſatiable revenge of the queen of Hungary was deaf to all propoſals. Exaſperated at prince Charles being obliged to leave the advantages he had gained in Alſace, ſhe now breathed nothing but a full reſolution to break through the treaty of Breſlau, and retake Sileſia; nay, ſo incident was ſhe in her reſentment, that prince Charles, while in purſuit of the Pruſſians, was obliged to ſend back unopened the letters directed to him by his Pruſſian majeſty's own hand.

Haughtineſs of the queen of Hungary.

His Britannic majeſty offers to mediate.

This behaviour was far from being agreeable to his Britannic majeſty, who, though he could not by the miniſtry of the earl of Hyndford prevail with his nephew to lay aſide his expedition againſt Bohemia, treated him ſtill upon a friendly footing, and even offered his mediation; but ſo infatuated was the court of Vienna, that they refuſed to accept of it. It is hard to ſay how the campaign on the ſide of Sileſia might have ended, had not the extream rigor of the ſeaſon obliged both parties to retire into winter-quarters. But though the ſword lay thus idle, the pen had full work. Her Hungarian majeſty publiſhed a manifeſto, which her officers carried along with them into thoſe parts of Sileſia and the county of Glatz which they, this winter, invaded; importing, that ſhe had been forced into the peace of Breſlau, and that his Pruſſian majeſty having, by oppreſſing the inhabitants, broken the terms of that peace, ſhe looked upon herſelf as entirely abſolved from the obſervance of that treaty. She then promiſed to the inhabitants of all the ceded countries a full redreſs of grievances, the reſtoration of their antient conſtitution; and after putting them in mind of the mild government of her anceſtors, promiſed them ample protection if they would revolt from the king of Pruſſia.

Manifeſtos of the queen of Hungary,

and the king of Pruſſia.

Such a manifeſto, conſidering the ſituation of the two potentates, might have been very prejudicial to the king of Pruſſia at this time, had not the inhabitants reflected upon the miſerable thraldom they had lived in under the houſe of Auſtria, and that, in fact, their circumſtances had been, in every reſpect, greatly bettered ſince they became ſubject to

his

his Pruſſian majeſty. He publiſhed a counter-manifeſto upon thoſe principles. He put them in mind of the intolerable taxes they had paid under the Auſtrian race, that all the produce was carried out of their country; and that they were mortgaged to any prince, who could advance money; and that their country had been often in danger of depopulation, by the ſeverities and bad faith the Auſtrian government had always practiſed in religious matters. In ſhort, he appealed fairly to their own experience, whether his government had not, in all thoſe reſpects, been the reverſe of the Auſtrian, promiſing protection and encouragement to all who ſhould behave dutifully to him, and denouncing the ſevereſt penalties upon thoſe who ſhould join with the court of Vienna. Geo. II. 1744.

This laſt manifeſto, and the vigilance of the Pruſſian government, had all the effect expected; for the king remained in the undiſturbed poſſeſſion of all his acquiſitions; and in the mean time, his Pruſſian majeſty renewed his applications and remonſtrances to the king of Poland, accuſing him of having rendered himſelf the enemy of Pruſſia, but inſinuating that he was ſtill ready to come to an accommodation with him. His poliſh majeſty, who was at Grodno, when he received this declaration from the king of Pruſſia, publiſhed an anſwer, in which he recriminated upon his Pruſſian majeſty, and fairly bid him defiance. This anſwer had ſo great an effect upon his Pruſſian majeſty, that he ſeems never to have forgotten or forgiven it. His remonſtrance to the king of Poland, who anſwers it.

Notwithſtanding all the diſtreſſes of the Pruſſian monarch at this time, he behaved with great honour towards the emperor, whom he adviſed to act with more ſpirit than he had hitherto done towards the petty princes of Germany, and to let them feel that he was the head of the empire. Seckendorff having received a large reinforcement of French troops, and likewiſe ſome Heſſians and Palatines, entered Bavaria, at the head of thirty-ſix thouſand men, and forced Berenclau, who commanded there for the Auſtrians, to abandon that electorate. Donawert fell into the hands of the Imperialiſts, and the emperor once more recovered poſſeſſion of his capital; and in a ſhort time obliged the Auſtrians to evacuate all his dominions, excepting Ingolſtadt, Branau, and Schardingen. The two latter they were ſoon forced to abandon, in order to reinforce the garriſon of Paſſau, which was threatened with a ſiege by his Imperial majeſty, who, however, failed in his attempt. The emperor re-eſtabliſhed in his hereditary dominions.

It

Geo. II. 1744.

It muſt be acknowledged, that the emperor acted with as much moderation in his good fortune, as he had behaved with patience in his adverſity. He rejected all the propoſals which the French made him for invading Hanover, and ſhewed the ſtrongeſt diſpoſitions to cultivate a good underſtanding with his Britannic majeſty, who had always treated him with great reſpect, and as the head of the empire. It was by his means that even the queen of Hungary, unrelenting as ſhe was, was ſo much ſoftened, as to declare, after his laſt return to Munich, that, let the event of war be what it would, ſhe was reſolved not to diſturb the Imperial family during its reſidence in that capital, and that ſhe would ſpare all the places adjacent to it, as much as the rules of war would permit her. This declaration was the more extraordinary from her, as it was made at a time, when Berenclau, having received great reinforcements, had, in the dead of winter, returned into the Upper Palatinate, where he made himſelf maſter of a great number of places, and ſeemed again to threaten Munich itſelf.

His moderate conduct.

He is again attacked by the Auſtrians.

The French king being now entirely recovered from his illneſs, ordered his generals to march into the Auſtrian dominions in Swabia, with 80,000 men, and the chevalier Belliſle, brother of the duke of that name, took poſſeſſion of a great number of places there, in the name of his Imperial majeſty, and at laſt the French laid ſiege to Friburg, the bulwark of the interior Auſtria, which was inveſted by marſhal Coigni, on the 30th of October. This ſiege was by far the moſt memorable of any that had happened during the war, and on account of the ſtrength of the place, it was reckoned by able engineers to be an impracticable attempt. But no place was impregnable to the train of artillery, which the French brought before it, conſiſting of no leſs than 180 pieces of cannon, 82 mortars, 42,000 bombs, and every thing elſe in proportion, beſides 18,000 peaſants, who were employed in turning the courſe of the river Treiſſau. The French king, notwithſtanding the opinion of his phyſicians was againſt it, repaired in perſon to the ſiege, and it was owing to his preſence only, that his troops ſurmounted the difficulties of the undertaking. The place was defended by general Damnitz, but the French king had here the good fortune to take into his ſervice, as lieutenant-general, as great a genius in the art of beſieging fortifications, as any that modern times have produced. This was the famous count Louendahl, to whoſe intrepidity and ſkill, the taking of the place was owing. Damnitz, whoſe garriſon was reduced from 9000 veteran troops,

The progreſs of the French againſt the Auſtrians.

They beſiege Friburg.

Riſe of count Louendahl in the French ſervice.

troops, to leſs than half the number, on the 6th of November was obliged to capitulate for the city, and had liberty to retire to the caſtles, the governors of which were to have a reaſonable time for knowing the ſentiments of her Hungarian majeſty, whether they ſhould capitulate likewiſe, or hold out. The anſwer was for the latter, and a freſh ſiege was begun, which continued to the 28th of November, when the garriſon was obliged to ſurrender themſelves priſoners of war. It is certain, that this ſiege gave a great idea both of the power and the valour of the French, who loſt at it upwards of 18,000 men. They found in the city and forts 200 braſs and 100 iron cannon, 70 field-pieces, 200 mortars, and all other military ſtores in proportion. In the mean while, count Clermont and the chevalier Belliſle carried on their conqueſts againſt the queen of Hungary ſo far in the Brifgau and Swabia, that the latter took Conſtance, a city in the neighbourhood of the Swiſs Cantons, who were alarmed; but count Clermont was repulſed by the valour of the inhabitants of Bregentz, a little territory, dependent upon the houſe of Auſtria.

Geo. II. 1744.

Friburg taken with great loſs.

The fate of the war was now changed. The French king ordered Maillebois to march towards the Lower Rhine, at the head of 40,000 men, upon pretext of protecting the princes of the league of Frankfort, from the reſentment of the court of Vienna; but his march was ſo ruinous and burthenſome, even to the ſtates of the empire, that they remonſtrated againſt it, and called upon the emperor for his protection. Notwithſtanding this, Maillebois proceeded on his march in the moſt tyrannical and oppreſſive manner. Such in Germany and the Low Countries, was the end of this devouring war for this year.

The war in Italy was the great object of the Spaniſh, as that in Germany was of the French, court. The prodigious power of France never was more diſplayed than at this time. Notwithſtanding the immenſe number of men ſhe had loſt in Germany, and the great armies ſhe ſtill had there, ſhe was this year in a condition to ſend to the aſſiſtance of don Philip 20,000 men, under the command of the prince of Conti, a young hero, who ſeemed to emulate all the military virtues of his anceſtor, the great Conde. Don Philip had been reinforced from Spain with 20,000 men beſides, ſo that he was now at the head of about 60 000 troops; having ſtill the marquis de la Minas to command under him. Their firſt operation was to paſs the Var, a river deſcending from the Alps, and emptying itſelf below Nice, into the ſea of

Progreſs of the war in Italy.

Geo. II. 1744.

Genoa. At firſt they met with an inconſiderable reſiſtance, their deſign being to penetrate into Piedmont, on the ſide of Nice; but they ſoon found obſtacles, that would have been unſurmountable, but to the moſt determined courage.

State of the king of Sardinia.

See treaty of Worms, vol. xx. p. 6, 1.

The king of Sardinia continued to receive the Britiſh ſubſidy, and to be faithful to the houſe of Auſtria, which had ceded to him all the territories and places ſtipulated to him by the treaty of Worms; and all acceſs into Piedmont was ſecured, not only by the ſtrongeſt works of art and nature, but by an army of 30,000 men, which he commanded in perſon. He was, however, at this time, under ſome embarraſſments. The event of the fight between the Britiſh and combined ſquadrons off Toulon, had obliged the former to repair to Portmahon to refit, ſo that the ſeas being leſs ſtrictly guarded than before, his enemies in Italy had received great ſupplies. The queen of Hungary's ambaſſador at Rome, the biſhop of Gurk, encouraged her to attempt the conqueſt of Naples and Sicily, as the only means of indemnifying herſelf for the ſacrifices ſhe had made by the treaty of Worms; and ſhe had actually declared war againſt that prince, who, on his ſide, received the Spaniſh army, under Gages, into his dominions, and having thrown off his neutrality, openly took part with his father, while the Genoeſe ſeemed diſpoſed to oppoſe the execution of the treaty of Worms to the laſt extremity.

The French force the entrenchments of Villa Franca and Montalban.

The entrenchments of Villa Franca, and thoſe of Montalban, were to be forced, before the French and Spaniards could proceed. The precipices, the defiles, and the dangers, through which they had to paſs, before they could ſucceed in the attack, are not to be deſcribed, being a ſpecies of fortifications, differing from all others; for here art and nature ſeemed to vie in making each other impregnable. Every rock was formed into a fortreſs; the whole being guarded by, and yet almoſt inacceſſible to, cannon, and to be ſurmounted only by perſonal activity, ſupported by determined reſolution. The young princes commanded an army fit for the enterprize. Though the king of Sardinia had neglected no precaution to oppoſe them, and though he had in his army ſeveral Engliſh gunners, who, on this occaſion, did him excellent ſervice, yet the confederates made themſelves maſters of the Piedmonteſe batteries, which flanked the paſſage of Villa Franca, though the rampart was above the height of two hundred fathoms from the level, and defended by 5000 troops. The confederates then proceeded from rock to rock, and fought a battle on the top of each. The Piedmonteſe made

made a noble reſiſtance, but prudent deſpair gave victory to the confederates; for, when once the attack was begun, amidſt thoſe labyrinths of death, it was ſafer to puſh forward, than to retire. The attack of the entrenchments at Villa Franca coſt the confederates 5,500 men; of the Piedmonteſe near 2000 were killed, and about 1500 were taken priſoners, according to the French accounts, which pretend, that 130 of thoſe priſoners were officers. Amongſt them was the marquis De Suze, natural brother to his Sardinian majeſty, who commanded the troops that defended the entrenchments. The entrenchments of Montalban followed the fate of thoſe of Villa Franca in three days after. The remains of the garriſons retreated to the main body of the army, under the king of Sardinia, or threw themſelves on board the Engliſh ſhips of war, that were by this time lying off Villa Franca, for Oneglia, which they did not reach till the 20th of April.

Geo. II. 1744. April 12th.

The confederates may literally be ſaid to have conquered only rocks, but thoſe rocks were the ramparts of his Sardinian majeſty's dominions. He thought the event was ſcarcely poſſible, till he ſaw the Spaniſh colours flying on the entrenchments of Villa Franca. He had been promiſed a reinforcement of 8000 Auſtrians, but he knew the non-performing engagements of that court too well to depend upon them. He received ſome aſſurance by the return of the Britiſh ſquadron from Minorca, but he ſaw, that ſhould he in the mean time hazard an engagement, and be defeated, he muſt be without reſources, and his crown would be in the moſt immediate danger. To preſerve that, he abandoned to the confederates the territory of Nice, and retired towards Coni. The confederate army then ſeparated. The main body remained at Villa Franca and Montalban, and other places in the county of Nice; while a detachment of ten thouſand Spaniards were ſent by land, under the duke de Arcos, to attack the Piedmonteſe, who had eſcaped to Oneglia. Theſe were under the command of general Sinzan, who fortified himſelf to ſuch advantage at Careſſio, that the Spaniards durſt not attack him.

They purſue the Piedmonteſe.

The duke d'Arcos then received orders to penetrate through the territories of Genoa into the Milaneſe. This meaſure, if executed, might have been of the moſt fatal conſequence to the affairs of his Sardinian and her Hungarian majeſty, for d'Arcos was to have been followed by all the confederate army. But the Britiſh admiral declared in the name of his maſter, to the ſenate of Genoa, "that

The confederates are refuſed a paſſage through the Genoeſe territories.

Geo. II. 1744. if they ſuffered the confederate army to paſs through their territories, he would immediately begin hoſtilities againſt the republic and her ſubjects." This declaration had ſuch an effect upon the Genoeſe, who were as yet in no condition to act, that with ſome difficulty they prevailed upon the confederate generals to deſiſt from their enterprize.

It ſoon appeared, how wiſely the king of Sardinia had taken his meaſures. The confederate army, though they had fought no pitched battle, was, upon a muſter, found to have loſt twelve thouſand of their beſt troops ſince they paſſed the Var. With the remainder, the prince of Conti thought they were too weak to proceed by the way of Villa Franca through roads, where the ſoldiers muſt drag along the artillery, and which, ſhelving along the ſea-ſhore, expoſed them to the fire of the Engliſh ſhips, not to mention the almoſt impoſſibility of being ſubſiſted in ſo barren and ruined a country. He therefore propoſed to recall the Spaniſh troops from Oneglia, and to return with the whole army to Dauphiné; and from thence to penetrate into Piedmont by Demont. This propoſal was agreed to; but the Spaniards, in their return from Oneglia, were ſo opportunely attacked amidſt the mountains by general Sinzan in their rear, and by 5000 Piedmonteſe in their front, that they loſt upwards of 4000, killed or taken priſoners, and the reſt, with difficulty, eſcaped to their main army.

Attempt to penetrate into Piedmont by Demont; which they effect,

The king of Sardinia, who lay all this while encamped near Coni, had foreſeen the deſign of the confederates, and had the precaution to fortify every paſs, by which they were to march, ſo as that they muſt diſpute every inch they gained. Nothing, however, could daunt the intrepidity of the confederates. It was the 19th of July, before they penetrated by the ſide of Briançon, towards the valley of Suza, as far as Chatteau Dauphin, and that through infinite difficulties. The precautions taken by his Sardinian majeſty, who was there in perſon, were ſuch, that it has been confidently affirmed, the confederates would not have attempted to proceed, had they not been encouraged by treachery in his Sardinian majeſty's councils and armies; and this charge is fixed upon the count de Courbon, a kind of an exile from France, but then a general officer under the king of Sardinia. Whatever may be in this charge, it is certain that the efforts made againſt what are called the barricades, which the king of Sardinia and the Piedmonteſe had ever looked upon as impregnable, can hardly be credited. A particular deſcription of all the attacks is foreign to this hiſtory. Some of the

French,

French, who were the moſt active, led by the bailif de Givri, mounted a rock, which was defended by artillery, and 2000 Piedmonteſe, and many of them paſſed even through the embraſures of the cannon, as they recoiled. They had no great guns; their loſs was great, but all the Piedmonteſe, who were upon the rock, to the number of 2000, were put to the ſword, in ſight of the king of Sardinia, who looked upon this rock as his greateſt ſecurity, and who was preſent with his army, without being able to prevent its being taken. In ſhort, the confederates carried every attack, but with the loſs of the bailif of Givri, beſides 143 other officers, and near 4000 men, killed or wounded. The barricades was a paſs, of about three fathoms, between two prodigious high mountains, defended by a river, behind which was a poſt, with three intrenchments, and a covert-way; this was the laſt paſſage that was forced, and ſuch was the conſternation of the Piedmonteſe, that impregnable as it was thought, it was carried by the French and Spaniards with very little loſs. Geo. II. 1744. with great loſs.

After thoſe paſſes were loſt, the king of Sardinia thought of defending Turin, and drew off his troops and artillery from the frontiers. The confederates, on the other hand, after ſinging Te Deum, laid ſiege to the caſtle of Demont, upon which the king of Sardinia had expended immenſe ſums, to make it the ſtrongeſt fortreſs in Europe. But its works were not, at this time, fully completed. It ſtood at the bottom of the mountains, in the valley of Stura, upon a rock, and had a good garriſon. It was, however, taken by the confederates, after a ſhort ſiege, together with the garriſon, and all its artillery and magazines, which were very conſiderable. The king of Sardinia was almoſt diſmayed by this freſh loſs. He acted, however, with great prudence and preſence of mind; the Auſtrian reinforcements were not yet come up, and reſolving to ſave his army for the defence of his capital, he retired to Saluzzo, ſeventeen miles to the ſouth of Turin. Inſtead of following him, the confederates formed the ſiege of Coni, a town and caſtle, which, in the year 1691, had been ineffectually beſieged by a marſhal of France, at the head of 40,000 men. This ſiege gave a ſeaſonable reſpite to his Sardinian majeſty. By his detachments he ſtreightened the quarters of the confederates, and cut off their convoys, and he was now reinforced by the Auſtrians under general Pallavicini, which, with other reinforcements, made his army about 36,000 ſtrong, ſo that in numbers he was now ſuperior to the confederates. and take Demont. They beſiege Coni. Sept. 15th.

Geo. II. 1744. On the 24th of September, his Sardinian majeſty attacked the French and Spaniards, in order to raiſe the ſiege of Coni. Count Leutrum, the commandant of the place, when ſummoned to ſurrender, anſwered, that he would conſider of that next year. The fortune of the French and Spaniards once more prevailed. His Sardinian majeſty that day gave the moſt ſignal proofs of his conduct and intrepidity; but though ſuperior to the Bourbonites in numbers upon the whole, his cavalry was inferior both in goodneſs and numbers. About ſix at night, finding the prince of Conti, who performed all the duties of a hero, a general, and a ſoldier, had the better of the field, he commanded a retreat to be ſounded, and the Bourbonites ſuffered him to draw off his army in good order towards the plain of Muraſſo. His loſs, upon this occaſion, was about 5000, killed and wounded, and that of the Spaniards about 3000; the loſs fell heavy amongſt the officers of the latter, and the prince of Conti expoſed himſelf ſo much, that he received two or three wounds, and had two horſes killed under him.

Battle of Coni,

won by the French;

All Europe, and the French amongſt the firſt, admired the judgment of his Sardinian majeſty in venturing this battle, which he loſt only by the newneſs and inexperience of his troops, who were not equal to thoſe of his enemies. Had he been victorious, the French and Spaniards muſt have been entirely deſtroyed. As it was, they were weakened, and the town continued to make an excellent defence. He remained, however, near the beſiegers, who found they did not advance in their works, though they were joined by a reinforcement of 8000 men, under the marquis de Mirepoix. A reinforcement of 1200 men were by this time thrown into the place, while the beſiegers made prodigious efforts to carry it; but a general ſickneſs, occaſioned by the rainy ſeaſons, and the unwholeſomneſs of their ſituation, began now to reign amongſt them; and after various deliberations, and repeated efforts, to ſtorm the place, they were obliged to abandon the ſiege, though with great reluctance, after loſing 6000 men before it, beſides the loſs they ſuſtained in the battle. The beſiegers, in their retreat, deſtroyed the ſtrong caſtle of Demont, but loſt a great number of men by the detachments ſent out to harraſs their rear.

but they are obliged to raiſe the ſiege.

Never was there a campaign, in which ſo much glory was acquired, ſo much blood ſhed, and ſo little profit followed, as this was. For, after all their ſucceſſes, the French and Spaniards had not been able to acquire one bit of territory; and even the caſtle of Demont, upon a ſurvey, was found to be repair-

repairable. The conduct of the prince of Conti was uni- Geo. II.
verſally applauded, but the marquis de la Minas was recalled 1744.
to Spain, diſgraced, and ſent into exile, to keep company with the duke de Montemar.

Marquis de la Minas diſgraced.

Prince Lobkowitz continued to command in Italy againſt the Spaniards and Neapolitans under count Gages, who had not above 10,000 men when his Sicilian majeſty declared his neutrality to be at an end. The queen of Hungary, as has been already hinted, owed this declaration to her uſual violence. She had even cauſed manifeſtos, of the ſame nature with thoſe ſhe diſperſed againſt the king of Pruſſia in Sileſia, to be thrown into Abruzzo, and other places of his Sicilian majeſty's dominions, exciting the inhabitants to rebel; but they met with the ſame reception, and for the ſame reaſon. She ordered prince Lobkowitz, however, at all events to advance againſt the Neapolitan territories, in hopes of an inſurrection in her favour. Upon this, his Sicilian majeſty, after declaring, that the troops under count Gages had been given him by his father, ordered 25,000 of his own troops, under the duke de Vienville, to join them, and after ſending his queen and family to Gaeta, he ſet out to command them in chief himſelf.

State of the war between the queen of Hungary and the kings of Spain and Naples.

Though this ſtep was contrary to the neutrality he had concluded, yet the Britiſh miniſtry in their hearts did not blame him for what he did, becauſe it was plain, from the proceedings of the queen of Hungary, that ſhe was, in fact, the aggreſſor. He publiſhed a manifeſto to this purpoſe, calculated chiefly to juſtify himſelf with the Engliſh miniſtry. He there ſaid, that though he had violated all the ties of nature, duty, and gratitude, in concluding a neutrality with his Britannic majeſty, yet neither the courts of London nor Vienna had put the value upon his moderation, which it deſerved. Upon this ſudden turn of affairs, Lobkowitz, who the campaign before had got great advantages over the Spaniards, ſent to Vienna for farther orders, which were, that he ſhould directly penetrate through the pope's territories into Naples, not doubting, that when he came to the confines of that kingdom, an univerſal inſurrection would happen in favour of the houſe of Auſtria. He accordingly advanced with his army to Civita Caſtellana, within 25 miles of Rome, while the confederate army, under the king of Naples, took poſt near Velitri, in the Campagna de Roma, 20 miles eaſt of Rome, and the out-guards of both armies daily ſkirmiſhed with one another. By this time, count Brown, a general of the Auſtrians, had, at the head of a ſeparate detachment,

the latter of whom breaks his neutrality, and joins the Spaniards.

May 15th.

Bonamici's commentaries of the war in Italy.

Geo. II. 1744. made an irruption into Abruzzo, by croſſing the river Fronto. It was thought, that had Lobkowitz directed his march towards Naples through Abruzzo, he would have ſucceeded better than he did. Moſt of his officers were of that opinion, and his rejecting it, together with his haughty behaviour, produced a kind of a mutiny in the council of war. Lobkowitz, however, being ſupported by the biſhop of Gurck, who aſſiſted at the councils of war, and had great credit with her Hungarian majeſty, followed his own courſe; and after ſome days was re-joined by Brown, who had the greateſt reputation, and deſerved it the beſt of any general in the Auſtrian army. Lobkowitz had always affected to treat the Neapolitans with infinite diſdain of their warlike abilities, and had even been incautious enough to talk of ſharing the eſtates of the Spaniſh-faction at Naples amongſt his generals. Commodore Long, with a ſquadron of Britiſh ſhips, which lay at the mouth of the Tyber, favoured all his operations, and not only kept the ſea open for him, but prevented his enemies from receiving any ſupplies that way, which had increaſed his confidence of ſucceſs.

Conduct of Lobkowitz.

But the king of Naples, and the duke of Modena, who was along with him, truſting the chief management of the war to Gages, Lobkowitz began to act with more caution, for he had, by his too great ſecurity and contempt of the enemy, brought his army into very great inconveniencies. The count de Gages gained an eminence, from which, had he been ſupported properly by the Neapolitans, he might have ruined the Auſtrian army. But in the mean while, Lobkowitz, to re-eſtabliſh his character, formed the plan of an attack upon the head quarters of his Neapolitan majeſty at Velitri, the execution of which he committed to count Brown, who, notwithſtanding he diſapproved of it at firſt, undertook it. Lobkowitz, in order to render it ſucceſsful, made ſeveral artful movements, as if his intentions had been either to take ſhelter in Rome, or to cover a ſupply of proviſions from the Britiſh fleet. The king of Naples, who underſtood that Lobkowitz but a few days before had paid a viſit to the pope, by whom he had been highly careſſed, ſent a meſſage to his holineſs, to acquaint him, that if he ſheltered the Auſtrians, he ſhould be obliged to bombard Rome. But in the mean time, Brown conducted his attempt with ſo much art and courage, that he broke into Velitri, and had it not been for the alarm given by the French ambaſſador, he muſt have ſurprized both the king of Naples and the duke of Modena in their beds. His Neapolitan majeſty, however, eſcaped

Bonamici.

He attacks Velitri.

Narrow eſcape of the king of Sicily and the duke of Modena.

eſcaped by a back way, and mounting on horſeback, had the good fortune to join his army, which lay encamped round the town. Count Gages was at that time going the rounds of the camp, but receiving intelligence of the ſurprize, he made ſuch diſpoſitions, that great numbers of the Auſtrians, who were employed more in plundering than in conquering, were cut in pieces; and the Spaniards and Neapolitans recovering from their ſurprize, puſhed the enemy ſo hard, that they were repulſed with great loſs. The marquis de Novati, who was next in command to Brown, was taken priſoner in the town, before he knew that the Auſtrians were defeated; and Lobkowitz was greatly blamed for being a ſpectator, at the head of the main army, of the whole adventure, without ſending the party, under Brown, which conſiſted of no more than 6000 men, any aſſiſtance. The loſs of the Auſtrians, upon this daring occaſion, was very conſiderable, and might have been much greater, had it not been for the caution of his Neapolitan majeſty, who, afraid of riſking too much, ſent orders to Gages and the duke of Caſtropignani, one of his generals, who had that day ſignalized himſelf, to diſcontinue the purſuit.

Geo. II. 1744. Auguſt 9. The Auſtrians repulſed,

The Neapolitans, tho' moſt of them new levies, got great honour by their behaviour on this occaſion. But they loved their ſovereign, and of all things dreaded again to come under the Auſtrian tyranny, notwithſtanding all the fair promiſes that were made them in the manifeſto of her Hungarian majeſty. They ſuffered, however, very ſeverely, particularly in their cavalry, from their firſt ſurprize. They likewiſe loſt an immenſe quantity of cloaths and baggage. But Bonamici, who was an officer in the Neapolitan ſervice, has not been particular in his excellent commentary of this war, as to the loſs on both ſides; and only ſays, that the ſoldiers, which were no more than 2000, and happened at that time to eſcape through the Britiſh fleet, and joined the Spaniſh army from Majorca, did more than compenſate all the loſs of the combined army.

The conſequences ſeem to confirm his calculation. Gages gave ſuch directions, that Lobkowitz found no encouragement for hoping ſucceſs from another ſurprize, and perceiving that all his hopes of an inſurrection amongſt the Neapolitans had miſcarried, and even with loſs to his army, he lay inactive in his camp till the 31ſt of October, and then he made a retreat with ſo much art and quickneſs, that it was plain he had ſuffered greatly. On the other hand, his

and purſued.

Nea-

Geo. II. 1744. Neapolitan majeſty had averted the ſtorm from his own dominions, and having been promiſed more reinforcements from Spain, did not think proper to diſturb the Auſtrians in their camp. But hearing of the Auſtrians retreating, he ordered them to be purſued. Lobkowitz retired by the walls of Rome, and on the 2d of November croſſed the Tyber, and broke down the bridges. Count Gages, however, followed ſo quickly, that it was with difficulty and ſome loſs, the Auſtrians retreated, part of their rear-guard, conſiſting of 700 men, under count Soro, being made priſoners of war. The Neapolitan army came up to one part of Rome, juſt as the Auſtrians had quitted the oppoſite quarter; and his holineſs Benedict XIV. who but a few days before had moſt graciouſly received a viſit from the Auſtrian general with equal complaiſance and benedictions heard of the arrival of his Neapolitan majeſty, who ſpent a day and a night in viſiting the curioſities of Rome, and, amongſt others, his holineſs himſelf, who had the art, during a long pontificate, to make himſelf obnoxious to no party, not even to the proteſtants themſelves.

King of Sicily's viſit to the pope.

Lobkowitz arriving in the eſtates of Bologna and Romagna, heard of the retreat of the Bourbonites out of the Sardinian territories, and then put his army into winter-quarters, his head quarters being at Imola, 182 miles north-weſt from Rome; as did count Gages the Neapolitans and Spaniards from Terni to Viterbo, which reaches within 25 miles north-eaſt of Rome.

Account of commodore Anſon's expedition.

It is now proper to attend a naval operation of the Engliſh, which, whether the reader conſiders boldneſs in planning, wiſdom in conducting, courage in executing, and happineſs in ſucceeding, is perhaps more ſingular than any that hiſtory can produce. Mention has been already made of captain Anſon's deſtination with a ſmall ſquadron to the South-ſeas, in order to diſtreſs the enemy there; but the event has been delayed till this year, that the narrative of ſo extraordinary an expedition may be kept entire.

See vol. xx. p. 476.

Strength of his ſquadron.

On the 18th of September 1740, this ſquadron ſailed from St. Helens, and conſiſted of the following ſhips. The Centurion, 60 guns, 400 men, commodore Anſon; the Glouceſter, 50 guns, 300 men, captain Richard Norris; the Severn, 50 guns, 300 men, honourable captain Edward Legg; the Pearl of 40 guns, 250 men, captain Matthew Mitchel; the Wager, 28 guns, 160 men, captain Dandy Kidd; the Tryal ſloop, 8 guns, 100 men, the honourable captain

George

[a] George Murray. Beſides thoſe ſhips, the commodore was attended with two victuallers who were pinks, one of them about 400 and the other about 200 tuns burthen. About 470 men, under the denomination of land-forces, were likewiſe embarked on board this ſquadron; but thoſe conſiſted for the greateſt part of the moſt decrepid of the Chelſea invalids; the reſt were marines, and the whole were commanded by colonel Cracherode. After ſome immaterial adventures and delays, the ſquadron arrived at the iſland of Madeira on the 25th of October, where it took in wine and refreſhments. Here captain Norris obtained leave to return to England, on account of his health; and the other captains ſucceeding according to their ranks, the command of the Tryal ſloop fell to lieutenant Cheap.

Geo. II. 1744.

It arrives at Madeira.

It appears, that the ſecret of the expedition to the South-ſeas under Mr. Anſon, was ſo ill kept, that the public, and conſequently the Spaniards, were apprized of all the particulars concerning it long before it ſailed from England. Accordingly, when the ſquadron was at Madeira, a Spaniſh ſquadron came in ſight, which had been fitted out by that court, on purpoſe to defeat Mr. Anſon's expedition. It conſiſted of one 66 gun ſhip, and 700 men; one 74, and 700 men; one 54, and 500 men; one 50, and 450 men; one 40, and 350 men; and a patache of 20 guns. The whole was commanded by don Joſeph Pizarro; and beſides his full compliment of ſailors and marines, he had an old Spaniſh regiment of foot on board, for ſtrengthening their garriſons on the coaſts of the South-ſeas. Had this fleet, which was every way ſo ſuperior to that under Mr. Anſon, been able to have performed its voyage, the ſucceſs of the Engliſh expedition might have been very indifferent. But by various accidents, not material here to be related, the whole of it was reduced to the 66 gun ſhip, with leſs than 100 hands on board.

A Spaniſh ſquadron fitted out to act againſt him.

From Madeira, Mr. Anſon, who was under great anxiety on account of the advanced ſeaſon of the year, proceeded to the iſland of St. Catherine's, upon the coaſt of Braſil; but in his paſſage thither his crews became very ſickly. An epidemical kind of a fever carried great numbers of them off; and it was the 21ſt of December before the ſquadron moored at the iſland of St. Catherine's. Here the commodore found the coaſt alarmed at his approach; but he was permitted to ſend his ſick, which were very numerous, on ſhore. They then

His men ſickly.

He arrives at St. Catherine's on the Braſil coaſt.

[a] The author of Anſon's voyage, by miſtake calls him John Murray.

gave

Geo. II. 1744. gave their ſhips a thorough fumigation and cleanſing, to purge them from their almoſt infectious ſtench. They next laid in their wooding and watering, and took all the precautions that were in their power to repair their ſhips, and to render them ſtrong enough to perform the voyage. This proved a work of more difficulty than they had foreſeen. For on a ſurvey, they found the Tryal unfit to proceed to ſea. It coſt them almoſt a month before ſhe was refitted; and in the mean time Mr. Anſon and his people were far from finding much cordiality from the Portugueze governor, who, like other governors, behaved there as if the whole of his deſtination had been to get money. He even, upon Mr. Anſon's arrival, ſent intelligence to Pizarro, the Spaniſh admiral at Buenos Ayres, and endeavoured to pick a quarrel with the Engliſh. They, however, left the place without any remarkable circumſtance attending them, excepting their finding it not ſo healthful as it had been reported to be, and very defective in point of hoſpitality and accommodation. After the crews were embarked, Mr. Anſon delivered to all his captains their orders concerning the ſucceſſive places of rendezvous from thence to the coaſt of China, and on the 18th of January this ſquadron put to ſea.

The firſt place of rendezvous was the bay of port St. Julian, upon the coaſt of Patagonia, and all accidents were provided againſt with admirable foreſight. Their run to port St. Julian was dangerous and comfortleſs, and here they had freſh accounts of Pizarro's Squadron. Here captain Murray ſucceeded to the command of the Pearl, as did captain Cheap to that of the Wager, and Mr. Saunders, afterwards an admiral, who was then dangerouſly ill, to the command of the Tryal, which again wanted refitting. While the commodore was in the bay of St. Julian, Mr. Anſon held a council of war, where he fixed the plan of his future operations, and acquainted the members, that he was inſtructed by his majeſty to endeavour to ſecure ſome port in the South ſeas, where the ſhips of the ſquadron might be careened and refitted. When they reached the ſouthern ſtreights of the extremity of Le Maire, the ſtorms and dangers they encountered were inexpreſſible. They paſſed them, however, about the 7th of March; but after this their toils, troubles, diſtreſſes, and dangers were redoubled. The commodore loſt ſight of the Severn and the Pearl, and never ſaw them more during all his voyage; and, in ſhort, through the lateneſs of the ſeaſon in which they ſailed from England, all their projects and flattering proſpects were daſhed; and, to uſe the words of the relater of the voyage,

voyage, their whole ſtrength was reduced to a couple of ſhat- Geo. II.
tered, half-manned cruizers, and a ſloop ſo far diſabled, that 1744.
in many climates they ſcarcely durſt have put it to ſea. It
was the 30th of November before the commodore compleated his paſſage round Cape Horne, after ſurmounting difficulties which affects us with horror in the very relation. On the 8th of May they had ſight of the iſland of Socro, one of the places of their rendezvous: here the commodore was in hopes of meeting with the ſhips that were miſſing, and in that expectation he cruized about for ſeveral days, with infinite danger to himſelf. On the 9th of June they arrived at the iſland of Juan Fernandez, in ſo ſhattered and miſerable a condition, not only from the fatigues they had undergone, but from the ſcurvy and other diſeaſes, that officers were obliged to navigate the ſhip equally with the meaneſt ſailors. Their freſh water was almoſt exhauſted; they had miſtaken their courſe, and there was not above ten foremaſt-men in a watch capable of doing duty, and even ſome of theſe lame and incapable to go aloft. On the 11th of June they were joined by the Tryal, whoſe loſs of hands and other calamities were equally deplorable with thoſe of the Centurion, the commodore's own ſhip. This iſland, on account of the vegetables and verdure it produces, appeared another paradiſe; but 167 ſick perſons were landed upon it out of the Centurion and the Tryal, and theſe by the inveteracy of the diſeaſes they had contracted, and other accidents, were ſoon after greatly diminiſhed. On the 21ſt they ſaw a ſail, which on the 26th they perceived to be the Glouceſter captain Mitchel. The commodore ſent out the Tryal's boat with water and other refreſhments. This boat captain Mitchel was obliged to detain, to help to work his ſhip, his own crew being reduced to leſs than fourſcore men, and of thoſe ſcarce one of them in health, or able to ſtand upon his legs. Through a particular capriciouſneſs of the ſeas in thoſe parts, it was the 23d of July before the Glouceſter could come into the road where the other two ſhips were lying, having for a month been attempting it, and again relieved by a ſupply of freſh proviſions from the commodore. Four of their ſhips being now miſſing, the Anna pink came in about the middle of Auguſt, and Mr. Anſon ſent the Tryal ſloop to Maſa Fuero, lying about 22 leagues to the weſt of Juan Fernandez, in queſt of the miſſing ſhips, but to no purpoſe.

In the mean while the people who were landed on the iſland recovered, many of them very ſurprizingly, and nothing was omitted by the commodore that could contribute

to

Geo. II. 1744. to their health, ſecurity, or accommodation for the future part of their voyage. The Severn and Pearl had parted with the ſquadron off cape Noir, and put back to the Braſils; the Wager, captain Cheap, had come with the commodore into the South ſeas, but the condition of the ſhip was ſo crazy, that when ſhe came to the iſland of Socoro, the place of their rendezvous, ſhe was little better than a wreck, and actually ſtruck on a ſunken rock, and ſoon after bulged, and grounded between two ſmall iſlands about a muſquet ſhot from the ſhore. Upon this the crew fell into a mutiny, plundered the veſſel, and intoxicated themſelves with ſtrong liquors; many of them falling down between decks were drowned, being incapable through drunkenneſs to relieve themſelves; and notwithſtanding all the efforts of the captain, who with the officers had got on ſhore, they continued on board the wreck till they were all in immediate danger of periſhing, and then they went on ſhore; but with ſuch diſpoſitions, as plainly ſhewed that they thought their captain's and officers authority had determined with the loſs of the ſhip.

Cheap, who was a very cool, conſcientious man, and of great reſolution, wanted to proceed to the northward in boats fitted up in the beſt manner they could. He had 100 men in health; he had got ſome fire-arms and ammunition from the wreck, and he thought he could ſcarce miſs of maſtering ſome Spaniſh veſſel upon the coaſt of Chiloe or Baldivia, in which he intended to proceed to the rendezvous at Juan Fernandez. This was a rational ſcheme, and might have been executed in the boats, though they had lighted on no ſuch ſhip. But a ſpirit of mutiny had got into the people, and they determined to go to the ſouthward by lengthening their long-boat, and taking the other boats with them, to paſs through the ſtreights of Magellan, and to range along the eaſt ſide of ſouth America till they ſhould arrive at Braſil, from whence they made no doubt of procuring a paſſage to Great Britain. Cheap remonſtrated againſt this ſcheme, which he repreſented not only as undutiful, but impracticable. They were, however, ſo determined upon any thing that had the appearance of returning to England, that about the middle of October they confined their captain, who had ſhot a mutinous diſorderly fellow, and having got the long boat ready, they prepared to put to ſea. Before their departure they releaſed the captain, and eighty of them went off in the long boat, which they converted into a ſchooner, and left Cheap, with nineteen men, a yawl and a barge. On the 29th of January the ſchooner arrived at Rio Grande, on the coaſt of Braſil,

Braſil, her crew being diminiſhed to thirty perſons; and Geo. II.
Cheap, with his few faithful adherents and friends, after ſur- 1744.
mounting the moſt dreadful fatigues and difficulties, found
means to be conveyed to Chiloe, from thence to Valpairaſo, and afterwards to St. Jago, the capital of Chili, where they remained a year, and, to the honour of the Spaniards, were treated with the greateſt humanity, till they found an opportunity, upon a cartel being ſettled, of returning to England.

In the mean while the commodore omitted no manner of precaution that could reſtore wholeſomeneſs to his ſhips and health to his men. He had now with him the Centurion, the Glouceſter, the Tryal, and Anna pink. On board the Centurion he had no more than 214 hands, of the men on board the Glouceſter no more than 82 remained, after the crew of the victualler, which, being declared incapable of returning to England, and purchaſed by the commodore, was added to them; and the hands on board the Tryal were reduced to 39; thus their whole force, boys included, amounted to 351 hands, at a time when they were apprehenſive of being attacked by Pizarro's ſquadron, the fate of which they were yet ignorant of, and of being obſtructed in their operations on the South-ſeas by a force from Lima. On board the Centurion, out of 50 invalids and 79 marines, no more than 4 invalids and 11 marines, including officers, were alive. On board the Glouceſter, every invalid periſhed, and only two marines out of 58 eſcaped.

As they had fitted every thing for their again putting to ſea, and the ſurviving hands being now perfectly recovered, they eſpied a ſail, which, excepting their own, was the firſt they had ſeen on thoſe ſeas. This was on the 8th of September 1741. The Centurion gave chaſe, but loſt it. Soon after they eſpied another, which proved a large ſhip, and was taken without any reſiſtance by the Centurion. Her cargo conſiſted chiefly of ſugar, and ſome coarſe blue and other cloths, ſome cotton, tobacco, and ſome trunks of wrought plate, with 23 ſerons of dollars, each ſeron weighing upwards of 200 pounds averdupois. The burthen of the ſhip was about 450 tons, and ſhe had 53 ſailors and 25 paſſengers on board. Here the Engliſh firſt heard, to their great joy, that Pizarro had been forced back into the river Plate, with the loſs of two of his largeſt ſhips, and that he had not been able to gain his paſſage into thoſe ſeas; that the embargo laid there upon ſhipping no longer ſubſiſted; and that whatever their ſucceſs might be, they had no danger to apprehend from the ſtrength of the enemy on thoſe ſeas; for that the

ſhips

Geo. II. 1744. ſhips fitted out againſt them, by advices from Pizarro by the viceroy of Peru, had returned to port, after cruiſing till the 6th of June, imagining that the Engliſh had, in attempting their paſſage, either periſhed, or had been driven back. The Centurion then having ſecured the ſilver and the priſoners, came back to the iſland of Fernandes, where upon examining more minutely the letters found on board the prize, they perceived that there was reaſon to expect other ſhips bound from Calao to Valparaiſo, and the commodore accordingly made diſpoſitions for intercepting them, and all took their final leave of the iſland of Fernandes, of which they did not loſe ſight till he 22d of September. The Centurion then fell in with the Tryal, which was diſabled in her maſts, but had taken a prize, which proved to be an excellent ſailor, of the burthen of 600 tons, bound from Calao to Valparaiſo, and the cargo pretty much the ſame as that of their former prize, only the ſilver did not exceed 5000 l. The Tryal, however, was ſo much damaged, that ſhe could be of no farther uſe; and the laſt taken prize was converted into a frigate in his majeſty's ſervice, and the command of her given to captain Saunders, the captain of the Tryal, which by the commodore's orders was ſcuttled and ſunk. Captain Saunders then had orders to proceed with his new frigate to cruize off the high land of Valparaiſo, at the diſtance of fourteen leagues, and to continue on that ſtation for 24 days, and if not joined by the commodore at the expiration of that term, ſhe was to proceed down the coaſt to Piſco or Naſca, where ſhe would be certain of meeting with Mr. Anſon. Lieutenant Saumarez, who had been made commander of the Centurion's prize, was ordered at the ſame time to keep company with captain Saunders.

As the commodore expected that by this time the Glouceſter would be drawing near the highland of Paita, he himſelf directed his courſe to the windward of Valparaiſo; and by the ſtationing of his ſhips, he was in hopes to intercept all veſſels employed either between Peru and Chili to the ſouthward, or betwixt Panama and Peru to the northward. This diſpoſition, however, though prudent, was attended with no ſucceſs. After cruizing about in vain, he met with the prizes, who were equally unlucky, on the 2d of November, and then he determined to haſten down to the leeward of Calao, to join the Glouceſter off Paita, that if the armament from Calao ſhould again put to ſea, they might be able to give a good account of it. In his voyage thither, as he was advanced within view of the highland of Barranca, in the latitude of 10° 36′ ſouth, he took the Santa Tereſa de Jeſus,

of

of 300 tons, with forty-ſeven ſailors and ten paſſengers on board; but the cargo, it ſeems, was inconſiderable to the Engliſh, though valuable to the Spaniards, who were allowed to ranſom their ſhips. It is to the honour of the commodore, that among the paſſengers now priſoners were three ladies, a mother and her two daughters, the youngeſt about fourteen, and extreamly beautiful. Being impreſſed with the moſt dreadful notions of the Engliſh ſailors, they gave themſelves up at firſt to the deepeſt deſpair; but the commodore, by his politeneſs and humanity, not only ſoon diſſipated their fears, but engaged their eſteem. They did not perceive they were priſoners, and he ordered the pilot of their ſhip, who amongſt the Spaniards in that country is always the ſecond perſon on board, to attend the ladies, and to inform them of every thing that could contribute to their eaſe and conveniency. Geo. II. 1744.

While the commodore was in queſt of the Glouceſter, he took another prize of about 270 tons burthen, deeply laden with ſteel, iron, wax, pepper, cedar, plank, ſnuff, roſarios, European bale goods, romiſh indulgencies, and other ſpecies of merchandize, the whole coſting to the Spaniards at Panama 400,000 dollars. From one Williams, an Iriſhman, on board this prize, the commodore learned that the Glouceſter had ſome time before chaſed a ſhip into Paita, and that the Spaniſh governor there had ſent intelligence to the governor of Lima of an Engliſh ſquadron being in thoſe ſeas. He learned farther, that a large ſum of money was at that very time lodged in the cuſtom-houſe at Paita belonging to the Spaniſh merchants, and intended to be ſhipped on board a veſſel then in that port. This intelligence, which was confirmed by other unqueſtionable evidence, with many other inducements, determined the commodore to hazard one of thoſe bold ſtrokes, which though unſucceſsful, is juſtified by prudence, and when fortunate, is admired by poſterity. In ſhort, he formed a reſolution to attack the town of Paita, which contained 2 or 3 families, and was guarded by a fort which mounted eight pieces of cannon, and that with no more than 58 of his own ſeamen, commanded by his lieutenant Mr. Brett. He ordered the men into boats, who were to make their way, if poſſible, undiſcovered, and to land in the town, to which two Spaniſh pilots were to conduct them, and to be their guides when on ſhore. To enſure ſucceſs, he informed his priſoners, that if the pilots acted faithfully, they ſhould be all of them ſet at liberty at this place; but that if they ſhould betray or miſbehave, they ſhould inſtantly be

The town of Paita taken and plundered by 58 Engliſh.

Geo. II. 1744. shot to death, and his prisoners carried captive to England. Upon farther information the commodore found, that the place could arm about 300 men besides the garrison of the fort, and that the fort had neither ditch nor outwork, being surrounded by a plain brick wall.

A great deal depended upon Mr. Brett and his party getting near the place undiscovered, which he did till he came to the mouth of the bay, when the crew of a ship lying at anchor there took to their boats, and rowed towards the fort, bawling out all the while, THE ENGLISH, THE ENGLISH DOGS. Their outcries, instead of putting the people in the town upon their guard, threw them into consternation. The soldiers in the fort, however, fired a cannon upon the boats as the English were landing; but before they could get a second gun to bear, they were partly disembarked, and being faithfully conducted by the Spanish pilots, they marched directly up to the parade. The darkness of the night, the noise of drums and other warlike instruments, but above all the shouts of the sailors, still augmented the consternation of the Spaniards, and threw them into an unactive confusion. For though the merchants, who owned the treasure in the place, made one rambling fire from the governor's house, they soon abandoned that post, upon a discharge being made by the detachment. Mr. Brett then divided his men into two parties; one he ordered to secure, if possible, the governor, and the other to attack the fort. But the governor and his wife, a young lady of about seventeen, had, before then, escaped very narrowly, and the fort, contrary to expectation, made no opposition, its garrison escaping over the wall; and the rest of the inhabitants had, upon the first alarm, fled out of the town into the country. There being now no great reason to apprehend any surprize, the money in the custom-house was removed by the sailors, and some stout negroes they had found in the place, into the fort; and they found abundance of fine cloaths and moveables that had been left there by the inhabitants when they fled out of their beds upon the first alarm.

In the mean time the commodore made towards the bay, and had the pleasure of seeing, by the help of his perspectives, the colours of England flying upon the fort of Paita. In a short time the Tryal's boat put on board the Centurion a large quantity of dollars and church plate. In the mean while, the adjacent country took the alarm, and a body of 200 well appointed horse appeared parading about a neighbouring hill, but without making any attempt to disturb the English, who

by this time had received a reinforcement from their ſhips, and were very buſy in ſecuring and carrying on board their booty, together with large quantities of live ſtock, ſuch as hogs and fowls, which they ſtood greatly in need of, and which they found here in great plenty. All this was done with vaſt deliberation, ſuch was the contempt in which the ſailors held the inhabitants. But the governor, by this time, had got a reinforcement from Piura, and his ſtrength every day increaſing, he was deaf to all the offers which Mr. Anſon made him for ranſoming the town, and the rich warehouſes that were found in it. At firſt he made a ſhew of attacking the Engliſh, and one Gordon, a Scotch papiſt, a commander of a ſhip in thoſe ſeas, was to have the command of the attack; but the good order and vigilance of the Engliſh, deterred them from that reſolution; and the re-embarkation of the Engliſh went on with all the order and compoſure imaginable. Geo. II. 1744.

The governor having, to the great loſs of the Spaniards themſelves as well as of the Engliſh, rejected all propoſals for ranſoming the place, Mr. Anſon could not be anſwerable for not deſtroying it. He therefore ordered Mr. Brett to ſet it on fire, as ſuddenly and as effectually as he could, but to ſpare the two churches, which by good fortune ſtood detached from the main body of the town. This was punctually complied with, but not till after the commodore had, according to his promiſe, ſent all his priſoners, to the number of 88, on ſhore, with orders that they ſhould have their liberty as ſoon as the men were ready to embark.

Humanity of commodore Anſon.

The fame of the Engliſh humanity, honour and juſtice, being thus, as well as their arms, carried to the remoteſt parts of the globe, gave new ſentiments to all the people of that world, who hitherto had been taught, by their prieſts and governors, to look upon the Engliſh as being ſomewhat worſe than monſters. This favourable impreſſion circulated ſo quickly, that many Engliſh ſubjects, even during that war, felt the good effects of it in thoſe parts; and Mr. Anſon has the glory of having effaced out of the minds of the Spaniards of the new world thoſe prepoſſeſſions which too many of thoſe in the old world ſtill retain.

Booty made by the Engliſh.

The loſs which the Spaniards ſuſtained by this expedition, was much greater than the advantage which the Engliſh made; for it amounted to about a million and a half of dollars; but the booty of the Engliſh in plate and coin did not exceed 30,000l. beſides rings, bracelets, and jewels, and private plunder. The commodore found in the harbour of Paita

Geo. II. 1744. the ſhip that was to have carried the treaſure to the coaſt of Mexico, which he took into his own ſervice, as having the reputation of being an excellent ſailer, but he ordered five other Spaniſh veſſels he found there, to be ſcuttled and ſunk. He then went with all his prizes in queſt of the Glouceſter, whom he came up with next morning, and found her in poſſeſſion of a prize, amounting to about 12,000 l. in money, and another, laden with wine, brandy, and olives, worth 7000 l.

As at the time of the commodore's ſailing from England, the expedition under Vernon to the Weſt Indies had been reſolved on; his inſtructions therefore directed him to have an eye upon the operations of the Britiſh fleets upon the coaſts of America, and, if poſſible, to keep up a correſpondence with them by land, which was eaſy to be done, over the Iſthmus of Darien eſpecially. But underſtanding by intercepted papers, that the attack upon Carthagena had been unſucceſsful, he laid aſide all thoughts of that kind, or of any attempt upon Panama, which might have been effected, had Carthagena been taken.

He accommodates differences amongſt his ſailors.

But the acquiſition of wealth began now to break that union amongſt the Engliſh ſailors, which diſtreſs and hardſhips had hitherto cemented. Thoſe who had been on ſhore at Paita, pretended to the property of the private plunder they had made; this pretence was diſputed by thoſe who had remained on board, and, as the admiral thought, with juſtice. He therefore ordered both officers and ſailors to throw all their private plunder into a joint ſtock, to be equally divided amongſt all the ſquadron, and relinquiſhed to thoſe who had taken Paita, whoſe courage he greatly commended, all his own ſhare. This proceeding, which was carried on with an equal mixture of authority and generoſity, reſtored unanimity amongſt the ſailors, and the ſquadron now prepared to ſail with all expedition poſſible to the ſouthern parts of California, or to the adjacent coaſt of Mexico, there to cruize for the Manila galleon, which the commodore knew was then at ſea bound for the port of Acapulco, there to convert her lading into treaſure. It was then about the middle of November, and the galleon did not uſually arrive at Acapulco till the end of January.

He ſails to cruize for the Manila ſhip

Arrives at Quibo.

In the mean time, the commodore bore away for Quibo, an iſland, ſituated at the mouth of the bay of Panama, to take in water, with which he had been but indifferently ſupplied at Paita; but found that the Solidad and the Santa Tereſa were bad ſailors, and retarded the progreſs of his

ſquadron,

squadron, for which he ordered them to be scuttled and burnt. It was, through misinformation, the 3d of December, before they came in sight of Quibo, which they found very convenient for furnishing them with wood and water. From Quibo, where the sailors found great plenty of turtles, the commodore sailed towards the coast of Mexico, and got into the tract of the Manila ship. Upon this he gave fresh instructions to his captains about their places of rendezvous. The winds and currents, however, happened to prove so cross while they were in those seas, that they began to despair of being able to fall in with the Manila ship. It was the 19th of February, 1741, before they arrived off the harbour of Acapulco. Here they received certain intelligence from three negroes, whom they had taken prisoners, that the Manila ship had arrived at Acapulco on the 9th of January; that she had converted her cargo into money, and that her departure from Acapulco had been fixed by the governor to the 14th of March, N. S. being the 3d by the commodore's reckoning. But they were terribly disappointed, for they had been discovered by the Spaniards, and the governor of Acapulco had countermanded the departure of the galleon for that season. After four months beating about, they found themselves again necessitated to take in water, which they did, in the harbour of Chequetan. While the commodore was in this place, he was under the necessity of destroying the Tryal's prize, with the Carmelo and Carmin, the other two prizes, and to reinforce the Gloucester with their crews, and thus the commodore's squadron was reduced to the Centurion and the Gloucester, and a cutter, that had been left under the command of Mr. Hughs, to cruize off Acapulco. Geo. II. 1744.

They had now an uncomfortable prospect. The rainy season approached, and they had nothing to do, but to cross the vast pacific ocean to China. But the cutter under Mr. Hughs had not yet rejoined them, and the commodore imagined she had fallen into the hands of the governor of Acapulco. After a long absence, she at last rejoined the squadron, though her crew had suffered such dreadful hardships from the badness of the weather, and the crossness of currents, that they scarcely could be known to be of the human form. The commodore then discharged all his Spanish prisoners, and stretched away to the river Canton in China, which he was in hopes of reaching in about two months. But in this voyage, the Gloucester sprung an irreparable leak, and the commodore was obliged to take her crew into the Centurion, and burn her. Inexpressible were the difficulties

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Geo. II. 1744. culties which the commodore then encountered from the leakineſs of the ſhip, and the diſeaſes of his crew. At laſt, towards the end of Auguſt, they had ſight of the iſland of Tinian, one of the Marian iſlands, a moſt delightful ſpot, and abounding with all the neceſſaries they ſo greatly wanted. Here, upon muſtering the whole of their able hands, including ſome negroes and Indian priſoners, they amounted to no more than 71, and moſt of theſe too, excepting upon the greateſt emergencies, were incapable of duty. The commodore ſtaid at Tinian for two months; and his ſick men, whom he himſelf aſſiſted in getting on ſhore, recovered greatly, not above 31 of them dying upon the iſland. This iſland, according to the account publiſhed in Mr. Anſon's voyage, was by nature as rich as luxury can require, and as beautiful as imagination can form. But the road was unſafe, and the ſeaſon ſo capricious, that while Mr. Anſon was on ſhore for the recovery of his health, with about 113 of his crew, a violent ſtorm drove the Centurion to ſea, with Mr. Saumarez, who was on board, and then commanded her. This threw the commodore into great perplexities, and he propoſed making the Spaniſh bark, which had been left, capable of carrying them to Macao in China. As not only the crew, but the commodore, who had by this time deſpaired of the return, or indeed of the ſafety of the ſhip, were convinced that this was the only expedient that could preſerve them from a cruel, and perhaps a perpetual ſlavery amongſt the Spaniards, to whom the neighbouring iſlands belonged, each undertook an equal ſhare of fatigue in this difficult work, and they had, under the moſt diſcouraging wants and difficulties, ſucceeded much better than they could have hoped for, when the Centurion returned; an account of which being brought to the commodore, he threw down his axe, with which he was then at work, and by his joy, broke through for the firſt time, the equitable and unvaried character he had hitherto preſerved. This happened on the 11th of October. It was on the 12th of November, before the commodore, after a great variety of other adventures, too numerous to be inſerted here, arrived at Macao, which is a Portugueſe ſettlement, ſituated in an iſland, at the entrance of the river of Canton; but entirely under the power of the Chineſe, a falſe and intereſted people, uſed only to deal with commercial veſſels, and ignorant of the rights and reſpect due to a ſhip of war belonging to a great ſovereign ſtate. The commodore reſolved, for the dignity of the Britiſh flag, not to ſub-

Arrives at Tinian. 1742.

The Centurion drives to ſea.

Is recovered.

Difficulties of the commodore with the Chineſe.

ſubmit to pay the tolls and cuſtoms exacted by the Chineſe from trading veſſels, and by the friendſhip of the governor of Macao, he was pilotted, though with ſome difficulty, into the harbour of Typa, which was exempted from paying the contributions impoſed in the river. But when Mr. Anſon paid a viſit to the governor of Macao, he frankly told him, his ſituation was ſuch, that he could not aſſiſt him, without a licence from the viceroy of Canton. The commodore went to Canton, where the ſupercargoes of four Engliſh Indiamen, who lay in that river, recommended him to the mediation of certain Chineſe merchants, who uſed to be a kind of brokers between them and the government of Canton. Theſe undertook his buſineſs, but ſhamefully amuſed him, without making even one effort to ſerve him. Upon this, after being trifled with for near a month, he returned to his ſhip, and had her hove down, and at the ſame time wrote a letter to the viceroy of Canton, acquainting him with his neceſſities and demands, which were to be furniſhed with proviſions and ſtores, to enable him to purſue his voyage to England. Fear brought that about, which no other conſideration could effect. For the viceroy and his council being ſenſible that all the naval power of China could not reſiſt the Centurion, if ſhe ſhould attempt to force her paſſage to Canton, ſent a Mandarine, with a pompous attendance, who, after being entertained by the commodore, gave orders for his having an immediate ſupply of proviſions; and promiſed, upon a report of the bad condition of the Centurion being made by the Chineſe carpenters, whom he brought along with him, that a council of Mandarines ſhould be ſummoned, to grant him permiſſion to employ proper hands of the country for refitting his ſhip. The French, who had their ends in diſappointing the commodore, intrigued ſo well at Canton, that it was ſome days before a favourable anſwer came from Canton. The commodore, who very wiſely gave the government to underſtand, that he was in a capacity of commanding the favour he requeſted, was at laſt permitted to employ Chineſe workmen, and after eluding, in the beſt manner he could, the exorbitant demands they made, his ſhip was put in a condition to go to ſea. Geo. II. 1744.

The commodore pretended at Macao, that he was bound for Batavia, but as it was the 15th of April, his true deſign was to intercept the Manila ſhip or ſhips, which he had reaſon to believe was then returning from Acapulco. He had taken care to inform himſelf perfectly as to the force of the enemy he hoped to encounter, and found that each ſhip 1743.

Geo. II. 1744. mounted 44 guns, and had on board above 500 hands. He had but 227 hands on board, (for he had hired ſome at Macao) of whom 30 were boys; but to repair the deficiency of his ſtrength, he ordered his crew, whenever circumſtances permitted, to be exerciſed in the management of the great and ſmall guns, in which they had arrived to vaſt dexterity, and to which his after-ſucceſs was greatly owing

He exerciſes his men.

It was the laſt of May when the Centurion arrived off Cape Eſpiritu Santo, on the iſland of Samal, where he had the greateſt chance of meeting the Manila ſhip. It is incredible with what aſſurance, and yet what anxiety, the ſailors expected her, and on the 20th of June, O. S. ſhe appeared, with a confidence, that ſhewed her commander was ſuperior to all apprehenſion of what he could ſuffer from the Centurion. The fight began, but the reſolution and ſkill of the Engliſh over-balanced all the ſuperiority of the Spaniards; and after an engagement, in which the galleon had 67 hands killed, and 84 wounded, and the Centurion only 2 killed, and a lieutenant and 16 wounded, the galleon ſtruck, and ſurrendered into the commodore's hands 1,311,843 pieces of eight, 35,682 ounces of virgin ſilver, beſides ſome cochineal and other commodities. Upon the whole, all the treaſure taken by the Centurion, amounted to about 400,000 l. excluſive of the merchandizes, ſhips, and effects, that had been burnt and deſtroyed, and which were ſuppoſed to amount to 600,000 l. ſo that the damage done by the enemy in this expedition, at a moderate computation, exceeded a million ſterling.

He takes the Acapulco ſhip.

Upon taking this great treaſure, (the other ſhip having long before reached the Manilas) the commodore returned to the river Canton with his prize, and finding that the Chineſe government made ſome difficulty in admitting him to paſs by a paultry fort at the mouth of the river, he forced a Chineſe pilot to carry him and his prize. On the 16th of July he ſent his ſecond lieutenant up to Canton with a letter to the viceroy, intimating his deſign of paying his compliments to him in perſon. This was civilly declined by the viceroy; and Mr. Anſon had ſome difficulty in ſupporting the dignity of his majeſty's arms and of his own character againſt the encroachments of Chineſe pride and avarice. The viceroy demanded the releaſe of the Spaniſh priſoners, whom the commodore of all things wanted to be rid of, and which he granted to the Chineſe magiſtrate, as a favour. This, together with his intrepid behaviour, gave him great reſpect and reputation amongſt the Chineſe, and at laſt he obtained

He returns to China.

obtained an audience of the viceroy. He complained to this magiſtrate, of the many hardſhips the Britiſh ſubjects had been put under; to which the viceroy gave no anſwer; but upon Mr. Anſon urging, that he intended forthwith to ſail for England, and demanded a proper licence to ſhip off his proviſions and ſtores, the ſame was readily granted, and he took leave of that perfidious, ignorant, haughty people. Before his departure, he ſold the hulk of the galleon to the merchants of Macao, December 15, 1743, and on the 11th of March, 1744, arrived at the Cape of Good Hope, and having, unknown to himſelf, in a fog run through a fleet of the French, between whom and Great Britain war was now declared, he came, on the 15th of June, to an anchor at Spithead, from whence his treaſure was brought up in great triumph to London, attended by thoſe brave ſeamen, who had ſo well merited to ſhare in it. Geo. II. 1744. Arrives in England.

Thus ended an expedition, which, as long as the human paſſions are rooted in the human heart, will be read with pleaſure and aſtoniſhment, and which required almoſt every virtue that a man, and every talent that a commander can poſſeſs, to render it ſucceſsful.

CHAP. IV.

The king writes to the States-General—Licenciouſneſs of the common people of England—Attempts to reform them—Wilkes and his brother brought priſoners to England—Their caſe—Earl of Holderneſſe ſtopped and ſet at liberty in Germany—Sardinian loan—The loſs of the Victory—Death and character of Sarah ducheſs of Marlborough—and of Mr. Pope—Commodore Barnet ſails with a ſquadron to the Eaſt Indies—Affairs in America—Hurricane at Jamaica—Operations in the Mediterranean—Conduct of the new miniſtry—The parliament opens—Duke of Cumberland appointed captain general—State of Europe—Battle of Fontenoy.

ON the 28th of April, his majeſty wrote a letter to the States General, thanking them for ſending over the 6000 men that had been required, and demanding, in conſequence of the treaty of 1678, that they would come to an open rupture with France, and at the ſame time taking notice, King's letter to the States-General.

that

Geo. II. 1744. that unleſs they did, their conduct muſt be very inconſiſtent with itſelf. This letter is a maſter-piece of public writing. In May his majeſty emitted two proclamations, one for inviting men to enter into his majeſty's ſervice, and another for recalling and prohibiting ſeamen from ſerving foreign princes and ſtates.

Army recruited.

As the dangers which threatened the public this year increaſed, the nation ſeemed to take a more ſerious turn than uſual. The cities of London and Weſtminſter made ſeveral uſeful regulations for the ſuppreſſion of vice; and their magiſtrates, particularly the commiſſioners of the land-tax, were extremely active in recruiting his majeſty's forces by ſea and land. A great many ſerious people, upon the invaſion threatened by the pretender's ſon, became uneaſy at the vaſt numbers of foreigners, particularly ſervants, who were reſident about London and Weſtminſter. There was perhaps but too good grounds for this, and the danger of the government was much greater than it was apprehended to be. For the reſort of needy foreigners had been greater than they could find employment, and thoſe who were deſtitute, were ready for any deſperate undertaking. A body of ſome proteſtant foreigners, (chiefly Swiſs ſervants) however, voluntarily offered their ſervice to his majeſty, in caſe of an invaſion, and were actually inliſted, to be commanded, in caſe of a neceſſity, by colonel Dejean.

Swiſs regiment raiſed.

State of the morals of the common people in England.

But the extremes, or rather the appearances, of this public ſpirit, in ſome reſpects, were attended with fatal conſequences. The ſpirit of enthuſiaſm was increaſed, many innocent people were ſeized, and deprived of their liberty by buſy informers and officious magiſtrates. Upon a ſearch warrant being wantonly granted in Weſtminſter, a number of innocent women were ſeized, ſhut up in a narrow hole, with unparalleled barbarity, and three of them were ſuffocated to death, being denied even a draught of water by their cruel gaoler, who was tried, ordered to be tranſported, and died the ſame kind of death on board the ſhip that was carrying him to the plantations. This fact, which is a reproach to Britiſh humanity, and would be a ſtain upon barbariſm itſelf, is not too immaterial to be recorded here, becauſe it may ſerve as a warning to magiſtrates, to be well aſſured of the hands, to which the executive part of their office is committed.

Cruelty of a gaoler.

In other reſpects, however, this public ſpirit of reformation was uſeful. The people of England, the lower ſort eſpecially, had run into all manner of extravagancy in diverſions,

sions, and had refined so greatly upon them, that they became patterns to their most luxurious neighbours. A time of war and expence demanded a check upon those extravagancies, and likewise upon the very great spirit of gaming, which now prevailed all over England, about London in particular, under the sanction of some pretended peers and peeresses, who, being needy in their circumstances, pleaded, as a part of their privilege, that they were entitled to keep gaming-houses. Under this pretence, they opened shops of immorality, gaming, and licentiousness of all kinds. This was an abuse, too delicate for the legislature to suppress all at once; but the grand jury of Middlesex, this year, presented as nusances the Lady Mordington and the Lady Castle, with their gaming-houses, in or near Covent-Garden, with the proprietors of the avenues leading to and from the several playhouses, in Covent-Garden and Drury-Lane, for not preventing the resort of loose and disorderly persons there, by which the peaceable subjects were often robbed of their property, and sometimes deprived of their lives. They likewise presented several houses of diversion, in and about London, and though their presentments had not any immediate effect, yet it laid the foundation of many excellent regulations as to the nusances complained of. Like presentments were made in other parts of England. It must be confessed, that the common people were at this time not only [illegible]alously extravagant, but insolent, and even in many respects, [illegible] in the face of the civil magistrates. The journeymen [illegible]s in particular, to the number of 15,000, made a kind of an association amongst themselves, not to work at the statutable prices; and robbing was come to such a pitch, that villains, through their numbers and audaciousness, often grosly insulted peace-officers in the discharge of their duty, and sometimes had the boldness to attack them in bodies on the street. The lord Carteret, and the duke of Newcastle, his majesty's principal secretaries of state, thought that such insolences threatened government itself, and wrote to all the inferior magistrates, to exert themselves in the protection of the people, and promised them the assistance of the military power for that effect.

Geo. II. 1744.

Attempts for reformation.

This year England saw an illustrious personage her captive. Marshal Belliſle had been sent by the French king to concert with the emperor the operations of the next campaign. From him he went to Cassel, and thence he was proceeding to Silesia, but was obliged to pass through part of the Hanoverian dominions. On the 9th of December he arrived

History of the captivity of marshal Belliſle and his brother.

Geo. II. 1744. arrived at Elbingrode, a village, which depended on the electorate of Hanover, though the poſt-houſe belonged to the king of Pruſſia. The marſhal had been by the emperor created a prince of the empire; he was attended by his brother, with only a few domeſticks, and while he ſtopt at the poſt-office, the bailiff or magiſtrate of the town arreſted him and his brother, in the name of his Britannic majeſty, and the Hanoverian miniſtry ordered he ſhould be removed to Oſterode, till the pleaſure of his Britannic majeſty ſhould be known. The marſhal and his brother readily acknowledged themſelves to be priſoners of war, and demanded the benefit of the cartel, by which the ranſom was ſtipulated, which they offered to pay. The emperor, who was extremely touched at this arreſt, ſent the count Bonau to demand the releaſe of the marſhal. Count Bonau, upon his arrival, harangued the regency on the marſhal's dignity, as prince of the empire, and inſiſted upon it, that as ſuch, and as being employed as ambaſſador to and from the emperor, he could be arreſted by no inferior power in the empire. He likewiſe alledged, that the bailiff had treated him abuſively, and inſiſted upon his being puniſhed. The reply of the Hanoverian regency was blunt. They reproached the French with having declared war againſt the king of England, elector of Hanover, therefore they warmly aſſerted, that it was their duty, as good Hanoverians, to arreſt him, eſpecially as he was the firebrand of Europe, and was then employed in concerting a ſcheme for inſulting their country. They affirmed, that as the marſhal was not provided with paſſports, his arreſt was legal, and that they had done no more than had been always practiſed in Germany amongſt the ſovereign princes, when at war with another power. At the ſame time, the marquis d'Argenſon, the French ſecretary of ſtate for foreign affairs, wrote a letter to the duke of Newcaſtle, repreſenting, "That the marſhal and his brother were arreſted in a poſt-houſe, belonging to the king of Pruſſia, as having his arms and liveries, in the road from Caſſel to Berlin, not by an officer of character, but by a bailiff of a village, in a violent manner, without regard to their character and dignity, and conducted like criminals, to Oſterode; that ſuch outrages were not tolerated in any country, nor in any circumſtances; that the king his maſter did not doubt but his Britannic majeſty had ſent orders for puniſhing the ſaid bailiff, and that it was expected and demanded, that his puniſhment ſhould be exemplary and ſevere, as his conduct had been contrary to the rules of juſtice and humanity. That

That the king his maſter was ignorant of the motives of the arreſt, ſince they were only attended by their domeſticks.— If it was pretended they have treſpaſſed on the territories of Hanover, and that in the part which they croſſed, there is no eſtabliſhed road, for which reaſon they are to be regarded as priſoners of war, the king had given orders to pay their ranſom according to the cartel ſettled at Frankfort, July 18, 1744; by which, all priſoners of war are to be ſet at liberty in fifteen days, either by way of exchange or ranſom." Geo. II. 1744.

When the matter came to be ſeriouſly canvaſſed at the court of London, it appeared, that the emperor alone inſiſted that the marſhal ſhould be ſet at liberty, as being a prince of the empire. But it appeared, that he was no other than an honorary prince, and that, by the emperor's capitulation, he could enjoy none of the privileges of a prince of the empire, without being qualified in point of property within the empire. His Britannic majeſty's miniſters were farther of opinion, that the cartel being ſettled at a time when the Engliſh and French were auxiliaries only in the war, it was not applicable to any caſe that fell out, after they became principals, and that though ſeveral priſoners, ſince they became principals, had been exchanged, it was merely through conveniency, and without regard to any cartel. They farther inſiſted upon it, that even ſuppoſing the cartel to exiſt, the marſhal could have no benefit from it, as he was taken acting in a civil and miniſterial, and not in a military, capacity. Vol. XX. p. 633.

Such were the reaſons that determined the court of London to give orders that the marſhal ſhould be conveyed to Stade by the regency of Hanover, and from thence brought over to England.

In the mean time, it is pretty clear that the regency of Hanover acted in the marſhal's caſe with more zeal than judgment, and that the bailiff, who arreſted him, was not poſſeſſed of preſence of mind; for it was the 16th of January, 1745, (27 days after he was arreſted) before the marſhal's papers were demanded from him. This was certainly a moſt unpardonable overſight, and it was ſtill more inexcuſable in the Britiſh miniſtry, who adviſed the marſhal to be brought to London, to be ignorant that the cartel of Frankfort actually remained in full force after the declaration of war, and that letters, pronouncing it to be ſo, had paſſed between the miniſters of the two crowns, and between general Wade and the French general, and that the exchange of

Geo. II. 1744.

of prisoners made in 1744, was upon the footing of the Frankfort cartel, tho' the generals Wade and Noailles could not agree about renewing it.

They are brought prisoners to England. See vol. xvi. P. 73.

When the marshal and his brother came to England, his majesty ordered he should be acquainted that he should be treated as marshal Talard had been, as soon as he gave his word of honour. This had been intimated to him while he was at Stade, but he still insisted upon his being considered in a military capacity; and Mr. Van Hoey, who was the intermediate agent, transmitted to the court of London the letters which had passed between the French and English ministers and generals upon that head, and which, as has been already observed, clearly evinced that the cartel was still understood to be in full force. This great point being gained by the marshal, he refused to acknowledge himself any other than as a prisoner of war, which put his Britannic majesty under the disagreeable necessity of refusing him the indulgencies he had proposed, and of giving orders that no honours of war should be paid him in his military capacity. It was the 13th of February before the marshal and his brother landed at Harwich from on board the Wageman of war, and from thence they were conducted to Windsor castle, where it may be proper now to leave them, as the affair was not fully determined till the August after.

Earl of Holderness, ambassador to Vienna, stopped by the Imperialists in Germany,

An incident of a similar nature happened to the earl of Holderness, who was this year sent ambassador from his Britannic majesty to the state of Venice, to compliment and confirm the neutrality they had embraced, and very punctually performed. For as his lordship was within two posts of the Imperial city of Nuremberg, he was stopt by a party of Imperialists, who wanted to carry him to their commanding officer lieutenant-general count de St. Germain. His lordship refused to go along with the hussars who had stopt him, but sent a letter to St. Germain, complaining of the insult offered to his character by a power who was not at war with his master. The French general informed him, that he was at liberty to proceed in his journey, provided he would give under his hand a letter of reversal, promising to return to submit to his arrest, if the Imperial court should judge him to be a prisoner of war. His lordship very prudently submitted to this; and the affair being communicated to the Imperial court, the emperor declared the whole to have been transacted without his knowledge, the reversal letter to be returned to his excellency, and ordered the officer, who had stopt him, to beg pardon.

but is set at liberty, and has satisfaction.

Notwith-

Notwithſtanding the ſubſidy which the court of England had furniſhed to his Sardinian majeſty, the vaſt unforeſeen expences he was this year put to, obliged him to apply to the court of London for liberty to raiſe 200,000l. by way of loan amongſt the ſubjects of Great Britain, and he offered to give undoubted ſecurity for the ſaid ſum, by engaging all the taxes of his dominions, and all the revenues of or belonging to his crown, for the payment thereof; and he was likewiſe willing that the intereſt of the ſaid 200,000l. and the principal money, ſhould be made good, and payable out of any ſubſidy or ſubſidies granted by the Britiſh crown to his Sardinian majeſty, ſo long as the ſaid ſubſidy ſhall be granted, the money to pay ſix per cent. intereſt; and John Briſtow and Gerard Van Neck, eſqrs; to be truſtees for taking the ſaid loan, and ſecurities upon the ſame. His Britannic majeſty accordingly ordered his attorney and ſollicitor general to prepare a bill for his royal ſignature and the great ſeal for permitting the loan, which was filled in a very few days. Geo. II. 1744. The Sardinian loan.

The Britiſh fleet in the Mediterranean being this year in great want of ſtores and proviſions, ſir Charles Hardy, with eleven ſhips of the line and a bomb-ketch, was ordered to convoy a conſiderable number of ſtore-ſhips for its relief. The French court having intelligence of this, ordered the Breſt ſquadron, conſiſting of fourteen ſhips of the line and ſix frigates, commanded by monſieur Rochambault, to block up ſir Charles Hardy and his ſquadron in the Tagus, which they accordingly did. Sir John Norris, by this time, was quite worn out in the ſervice of his country, and notwithſtanding his very great abilities as a ſeaman, his fortune, which was generally to be inactive, diſcouraged both the ſailors and the public, when he was named to command in an expedition. Sir John Balchen, therefore, was ordered to put to ſea, to the relief of ſir Charles Hardy, with the following diviſion: ſir John Balchen, admiral, in the Victory. Hampton Court, 70 guns; Auguſta, 60; Captain, 70; Victory, 110; Princeſs Amelia, 80. Vice-admiral Martyn in the St. George. Falkland, 50; Suffolk, 70; St. George, 90; Exeter, 60; Vice-admiral Stuart in the Duke. Sunderland, 60; Monmouth, 70; Duke, 90; Prince Frederick, 60; Princeſs Mary 60: the Ætna and Scipio fire-ſhips, and Fly ſloop. Breſt ſquadron blocks up the Engliſh at Liſbon.

By this time the Dutch, in conſequence of his Britannic majeſty's requiſition, had fitted out a ſquadron under admiral Baccheresſt, conſiſting of the following ſhips: the Haerlem, 70 guns, admiral Baccheresſt; Dordnecht, 54; Damiato, 64; Leeuwenhoſt, 54; Edam, 54; Aſſendelft, 54; Delft, 54; and Balchen ſails with the Dutch for their relief.

Geo. II. and two frigates. The reader, however, is to be informed,
1744. that thoſe Dutch ſhips were in every reſpect in a very miſerable condition; and to ſo low a paſs had that nation ſuffered its marine to fall, that England was obliged to furniſh the materials and rigging for fitting them out. The fleet, however, being joined on the 15th of July, it ſailed from Spithead on the 7th of Auguſt, with about 200 ſail of merchant ſhips bound for Portugal and the Mediterranean under its convoy. On the 9th of September ſir John Balchen with his ſquadron, after making ſeveral valuable prizes in their voyage, caſt anchor off the rock of Liſbon. But by this time the Breſt fleet under Roſchambault had paſſed the Streights, and left the combined fleet at liberty to proceed to Gibraltar.

After ſir John Balchen had thrown ſome reinforcements into Gibraltar, and ſupplied the Mediterranean fleet with what was proper, he proceeded in queſt of the Breſt ſquadron; but finding that it had retired into Cadiz, he proceeded on his return for England. On the 28th of September he left the coaſt of Galicia, but on the 3d of October a dreadful ſtorm aroſe, which diſperſed his fleet. The Exeter was in imminent danger of foundering, as was the Duke; but at length the whole, except the Victory, arrived ſafe at St. Helens on the 10th of October. But the Victory, which was eſteemed the fineſt ſhip in Europe, was drove upon the coaſt of Alderney, and there ſhipwrecked. Eleven hundred brave men, of [illegible] were volunteers and gentlemen of fortune, with one of the laſt admirals, went all at once to the bottom. The public, for a long time, flattered themſelves that the ſhip was only driven to ſea; but upon enquiry it appeared, that the inhabitants of Alderney had, for 24 hours, diſtinctly heard her ſignals of diſtreſs; and part of the wreck being found, left no room to doubt of her unhappy fate, though no mortal ſurvived to give any account of the particulars of the misfortune. Beſides the irreparable loſs of lives, 110 braſs guns were loſt upon this occaſion; and admiral Vernon having of late been very liberal of his cenſures upon the manner of conſtructing the Engliſh ſhips of war, gave many people very ſerious apprehenſions with regard to the reſt of the navy; but happily for the public, the officers and workmen concerned, ſoon after ſtruck into other principles of naval architecture, which have rendered the ſhips conſtructed ſince, far more ſafe and ſerviceable.

He is loſt in the Victory.

Before we reſume the hiſtory of public tranſactions, it is proper to mention the death of two Engliſh ſubjects, who

though in very different ſtations and capacities, were of im- Geo. II.
portance enough in their lifetime to have their deaths re- 1744.
corded in the hiſtory of England.

The firſt was Sarah dutcheſs of Marlborough, who if we except Catherine empreſs of Ruſſia, was the greateſt female favourite of fortune that her age produced. No woman, perhaps, was ever leſs formed by nature and habit for a court, yet ſhe arrived to ſuch a pitch of greatneſs at the court of England, that her ſovereign was, in fact, but the ſecond perſon in it. Never were two women more the reverſe of one another in their natural diſpoſitions, than queen Anne and the dutcheſs of Marlborough, yet never had any ſervant a greater aſcendant over a miſtreſs, than the latter had over the former. But though the dutcheſs did not riſe by a court, yet ſhe roſe by a party, of which ſhe had the art to put her miſtreſs at the head, who was no better than the vehicle of her ſentiments, and the miniſter of her avarice; for few ſovereign princes in Europe could, from their own revenues, command ſuch ſums of ready money, as the dutcheſs could have done the laſt 35 years of her life. But the moſt extraordinary part of her character was, that though the more than princely eſtate ſhe left was acquired by her power with the whigs; ſhe was, to the day of her death, in her heart, attached to the family of the late king James; and ſhe had even brought her huſband, in king William's time, under ſome difficulties on that account. This charge would be perhaps too [illegible], were it not [illegible] by many paſſages of her life, after [illegible] more to hope from party, and therefore was at liberty to give a looſe to her principles and ſecret inclinations; but above all, by the unprovoked and indecent averſion which ſhe avowed towards the family of Hanover, and which, ſhe, as far as it was in her power, ſtrove to entail upon thoſe upon whom ſhe entailed the bulk of her immenſe fortune.

October 18. Death and character of Sarah dutcheſs of Marlborough,

The next death to be mentioned, is that of a man who to a reader not perfectly acquainted with the character and diſpoſition of the times, may appear too inconſiderable to be mentioned here. It is that of Alexander Pope, who though not the greateſt genius, was undoubtedly the moſt pleaſing poet, that this, or, perhaps, any other country ever produced. He profeſſed the Roman catholic religion, only becauſe he was born in it; and he did not chuſe to be ſingular by changing his religion, when other motives than conſcience might have been more than ſuſpected. In his middle age, his poetical connections ſeem to have lain equally with

and of Mr. Pope.

Geo. II. 1744.

the whigs as the tories, but perſonally he appeared to have had a much greater cordiality for the latter. With the greateſt opportunities of knowing mankind, he was a very bad judge of them. He had very little learning, and leſs temper; and provided he was left ſupreme in the poetical capacity, he was contented to be ſubordinate in any other. Towards the decline of his life, he contracted a kind of an averſion to the government, and it was generally at his houſe the moſt conſiderable members of the oppoſition in parliament met and concerted their meaſures. In his natural complection, he was the very reverſe of what he pretended to be in his writings; though ſplenetic, he was not immoral; yet he deſcended to employ the loweſt agents, and to practiſe the meaneſt arts, to advance his reputation as a poet, which he had the peculiar art of making ſubſervient to his intereſt.

The tranſactions of this year cannot be properly cloſed without laying before the reader the operations of the Engliſh arms in the Eaſt-Indies and in America.

Hiſtory of commodore Barnet's expedition to the Eaſt-Indies.

It was eaſy to foreſee, that upon the breaking out of the war with France, ſhe would avail herſelf early of the proſperous turn which her commerce had lately taken in the Eaſt-Indies, and that ſhe would probably ſend a force thither to diſtreſs the Engliſh ſettlements and navigation. Lord Carteret, to the honour of his adminiſtration, was of that opinion, and favoured the applications of the Eaſt-India company for a ſufficient ſquadron to be ſent to the Eaſt-Indies. He prevailed at laſt [illegible] the Deptford of 60 guns, 400 men, commodore Barnet; the Medway [illegible] guns, 400 men, captain Peyton; the Preſton, 50 guns, 300 men, the earl of Northeſk; the Diamond, 20 guns, 120 men, captain More; the whole to be commanded by commodore Barnet, were appointed for that purpoſe. Though no meaſure was ever better timed and more juſtly concerted than this was, yet the enemies of the miniſter, at the time, exclaimed againſt it with great vehemence.

On the 26th of May, Barnet with his ſquadron arrived at Porta Payta in St. Jago, the chief of the Cape de Verd iſlands, and he had the ſpirit to ſeize two Spaniſh veſſels of ſome force who were lying there, who had ſet him the example of violating the neutrality in another of the ſame iſlands, by taking ſome Britiſh ſhips they found there. Being arrived at Madagaſcar, he ſeparated his ſquadron, after ordering their rendezvous to be at Batavia; and he with the Preſton ſailed for the ſtreights of Sunda, while the Medway and the Diamond proceeded to the ſtreights of Malacca, all of them diſguiſing

their

their ſhips as nearly as they could to the appearance of Dutch, Geo. II.
to be the leſs ſuſpected by the French ſhips, which they 1744.
hoped to meet with. The commodore and lord Northeſk accordingly, after a ſmart engagement, had the good fortune to take three French Eaſt-India ſhips, very richly laden. In the mean time, the Medway and the Diamond took a French privateer, and a ſhip from Manila, laden with treaſure of an immenſe value, and then bore away to the place of rendezvous, where they joined the commodore.

The operations in America this year fell out variouſly for the Engliſh. It happened fortunately for them, however, that the extream deſire the queen of Spain had to ſee her enterprizes in Europe ſucceed, which they could not do without money, procured orders to Torres, who ſtill remained in thoſe ſeas, to poſtpone all conſiderations to that of bringing home the treaſure. Every precaution, upon war being proclaimed againſt France, was taken by admiral Ogle for the defence of the Britiſh ſettlements; and commodore Warren being ſtationed for the protection of the Leeward iſlands, with ſix men of war and ſloops, made a great many prizes, and greatly diſtreſſed the enemy's trade in thoſe ſeas, and reduced Martinico itſelf to vaſt difficulties for ſubſiſtance. About the ſame time two of the ſmall Antilla iſlands, moſtly poſſeſſed by the French, ſubmitted to the Engliſh; that of St. Martin's being reduced by Mr. Hodge, deputy governor of Auguſta, and the other, St. Bartholomew, ſubmitting to gover[illegible] Matthews. Operations in America.

Matters did not go ſo favourably for the Engliſh upon the continent in America. Queſnel, the French governor of Cape Breton, got the Indians in that neighbourhood over to the French intereſt, and ſent a ſmall armament from Lewiſburg, which reduced Canſo, and deſtroyed the buildings and fortifications, which were ſo poorly gariſoned, that they were in no condition to hold out. Du Vivier, the French commodore, then proceeded with a body of 500 Indians who had joined him, againſt Annapolis Royal. This important place had for its garriſon only 200 men capable of doing duty, and it was commanded by lieutenant colonel Maſcarene. He immediately applied to Shirley, governor of New England, for reinforcements, and the aſſembly there ſent him four companies of volunteers. Du Vivier was extreamly intent upon taking the place, and muſt have ſucceeded, had he had under him a few more Europeans; but the garriſon being reinforced, took their meaſures ſo well, that the French, after alarming and putting them for ſome weeks to great inconveniencies,

Geo. II. 1744.

were obliged to return to Lewiſburgh; his attempt having only awakened the Engliſh to a greater ſenſe of their danger.

Hurricane at Jamaica.

On the 20th of October this year, the iſland of Jamaica was viſited by a moſt dreadful hurricane, which proved fatal to the ſhipping there. Many wharfs at Kingſton, Port Royal, and Paſſage Fort, were totally deſtroyed, and the goods every where waſhed away. The new fort at Moſquito point was demoliſhed; and out of 105 ſhips, which were ſhips of war, 104 were ſtranded, wrecked, or foundred. The Rippon rode it out, but without maſts. Dwelling houſes, plantations, and works of all kinds, were

Kingſton Gazette. Ibid.

ſwept away; a great many of the inhabitants loſt their lives, and the havock made amongſt cattle, ſheep, poultry, and proviſions of all kinds, was inexpreſſible. The Prince of Orange, the Bonetta and Thunder bomb, all of them king's ſhips, were wrecked, but the people ſaved. The Montague run aground; the Greenwich was ſunk, and captain Allen and lieutenant Batterſworth, with 70 of the crew, were drowned. The hulk of the Lark was ſunk, and about 20 white men and 90 negroes were drowned. By good fortune, however, ſir Chaloner Ogle, with ſome of the largeſt ſhips under his command, was, at the time of the hurricane, upon a cruize, and many of the merchant ſhips, with their cargoes, were ſaved.

Strength of the American privateers equal to all the Engliſh navy in queen Elizabeth's time.

The ſpirit of privateering was, at this time, ſo very high amongſt the Britiſh ſubjects in America, that from well grounded calculations it appeared that the Britiſh ſubjects upon that continent and in the iſlands, fitted out, upon the whole, a greater force of privateers than all the naval power of England in the time of queen Elizabeth amounted to. They took in all 169 ſhips from the enemy in thoſe ſeas, though not without conſiderable loſſes to themſelves. Their ſucceſs, however, was in a great meaſure owing to the abovementioned orders which de Torres, the Spaniſh admiral, received, and which kept him inactive. But he made amends for that inactivity, by the care which he took to bring under his convoy to Spain, towards the end of this year, a moſt immenſe treaſure, leaving at the Havanna ſeven men of war for its defence, and the protection of the Spaniſh trade.

Operations of the war in the Mediterranean.

In the Mediterranean, no ſignal operations happened that could mark the war either with ſucceſs or misfortune. Eleven French xebeques carrying troops to the Spaniards in Italy, were deſtroyed by the Engliſh near Marſeilles; but the men got aſhore. Admiral Rowley, who ſucceeded admiral Matthews in the command of the grand fleet, had a very difficult

difficult as well as a dangerous poſt to maintain. His fleet was formidable. It conſiſted of 4 ſhips of 90 guns; 8 of 80; 11 of 70; 4 of 60; 7 of 50; 4 of 40, and 3 of 20; in the whole 34 ſhips of the line, 7 frigates, with a proportion of bombs, ſloops, and fire-ſhips. The Breſt ſquadron was then at Cadiz; a Spaniſh ſquadron lay at Carthagena, and the Toulon ſquadron, under Gabaret, was at ſea, in order, as the French court pretended, to join that of Spain, to ſee Torres and his treaſure ſafe into port, and for that purpoſe, it was joined by the Breſt fleet, the whole making 30 ſail of the line. Geo. II. 1744.

All Europe was now in expectation, that when this fleet had joined the Spaniſh ſquadron, ſomewhat deciſive between them and Rowley muſt happen. The Britiſh admiral, when the French from Breſt and Toulon put to ſea, was refitting his main fleet at Port Mahon, and had left commodore Oſburn, with only eight ſhips of the line, to cruize on the coaſt of Italy, ſo that the government of England was then in ſome pain about Gibraltar. It was the 7th of October before Rowley ſailed from Port Mahon; and underſtanding that while he was in queſt of the French fleet, Navarro, the Spaniſh admiral in Carthagena, intended to make an attempt upon Gibraltar, he ſailed towards Alicant, but found the Spaniſh ſquadron ſtill lying in Carthagena. He was, by this time, joined by the ſquadron under commodore Oſborn, and had under his convoy a large fleet of Engliſh merchant ſhips homeward bound. On the 21ſt of October, he heard of ſix French men of war having ſailed from Cadiz; which, with ſeven more who had ſailed before, gave him ſome apprehenſions, as the ſix laſt-ſailed had, on the 12th, paſſed the mouth of the Streights. He made after them, but found it was too late; while the reſidue of the French fleet returned to Breſt, and de Torres with his vaſt treaſure arrived in Spain.

Views of the French admirals.

Not only the court of England, but that of Spain, was amazed at ſo unaccountable a conduct of the French fleet in thus beating about the ſeas ſeemingly to no purpoſe. But Maurepas, who was now the French miniſter of the marine, had adopted a new ſyſtem. He ſaw the trade of France, which during peace had been raiſed to ſo prodigious a pitch, in time of war entirely ruined by the Britiſh men of war and cruizers, for want of protection. By a moderate computation, the mercantile intereſt in France had loſt ſince the beginning of the war, upwards of 2,000,000l. ſterling, no fewer than 252 French prizes in Europe, and 94 in America, having been taken; and the prizes taken by commodore

Geo. II. 1744. Barnet in the East-Indies, were alone computed to be worth 360,000l. It is true, the English had lost to the French 41 vessels in America, and 187 in Europe. But the value of each at an average, was far less than the French ships that had been taken; and considering that the number of British ships on the seas were superior to the French, the loss was very disproportionate. Maurepas, therefore, instead of employing the marine of France in a body, detached them in small squadrons for the protection of the trade.

Losses of the English by sea. But the English this year had the misfortune to lose some of their ships of war. The Northumberland, a new 70 gun ship, was, by the cowardice of the master and the gunner, given up to three French men of war of inferior force, after their brave commander, captain Watson, had been mortally wounded. The Seaford man of war, captain Pye, the Solebay man of war, captain Bury, and the Grampus sloop, were likewise taken by the French, and the Colchester, a 40 gun ship, was unhappily wrecked between the Nore and the Downs; some other accidents likewise happened to the prejudice of the English fleet.

Arrival of the Spanish treasures. October 29. The arrival of de Torres with the Spanish treasure, saved France at this time, in a manner, from a general bankruptcy. By a most unaccountable fatality, though the time of his sailing was no secret either in Europe or America, he had not, during all his [illegible] voyage, met with one British vessel. Though the court of Spain had complained bitterly of the conduct of the French admirals, yet all was overlooked to gratify the queen's inordinate ambition for settling her son in Italy. The French ministry pretended, that their fleets had not left the coasts of Spain, till they knew that Torres was safe from all attacks: they represented, that it was on account of Spain, that they had brought so much ruin and calamity upon their own trade from the British arms; and that it was but just that the indulto upon the French property in the galleons should be settled low, in order to give the French merchants some relief. They were gratified in all this; and from their promises, her Catholic majesty conceived fresh hopes of carrying her schemes into execution.

Measures of the English ministry. The management of the war upon the continent this year, created great discontent in England, which was far from being alleviated by any partial success at sea, because the latter filled only the pockets of individuals, while the expence of the war was severely felt by the public. The minister, who now in right of his mother was earl Granville, was at no pains to conceal his schemes, but frankly owned he could not execute

execute them without money. On the other hand, that part of the adminiſtration who had credit enough to raiſe the money, thought it unreaſonable that this credit ſhould not only be employed, but endangered, by the execution of every meaſure being left to another, who in fact had engroſſed all the power of the cabinet, and had left them the bare merit of not oppoſing his majeſty's intentions. They ſaw plainly that the concluding the treaty of Worms, had given umbrage to ſome of the well-diſpoſed powers of Europe, and that as ſo much depended upon the king of Poland ſtanding by the queen of Hungary, it might be impolitic to proceed to extremities with the king of Naples, who was marry'd to that prince's daughter. They knew that a great part of the mercantile intereſt were by no means fond of erecting his Sardinian majeſty into a maritime power; and great uneaſineſs was entertained on account of the money to be paid for Final, which in the treaty is expreſſed to be paid neither by the king of Sardinia nor the queen of Hungary. They thought that his Pruſſian majeſty had not been cautiouſly dealt by, and that nothing could be ſo deſirable to Great Britain as an equitable and ſafe peace, which they were not ſure of obtaining upon the principles laid down in the cabinet. Geo. II. 1744. See vol. xx. P. 642.

On the other hand, if the war was to be carried on in ſupport of the queen of Hungary, they agreed with the miniſter, that it ought to be done in a vigorous manner, which they thought had not hitherto been the caſe on the continent; and they were for employing a general who ſhould be above all dread of miniſterial power, and of weight ſufficient to determine the allies of Great Britain in all their operations. For this purpoſe they threw their eyes upon the duke of Cumberland, who had given unqueſtionable proofs, not only of his courage, but his capacity, in war. They even went ſo far as to ſuggeſt to the throne, that it ought to be deprived of none of the ſervices of its ſubjects, and that a door ſhould be opened for ſuch a general comprehenſion as would, in parliament, carry the face of unanimity, and thereby ſilence all clamour abroad. Duke of Cumberland thought of to command the Engliſh forces.

To attain to this deſireable end, Mr. Pelham, upon whom the great weight of national buſineſs was to lie, ſhould this ſcheme take place, propoſed, that thoſe gentlemen in the oppoſition, upon the opinion of whoſe integrity the public greatly depended, ſhould be admitted to ſerve his majeſty; and he very frankly owned, that without unanimity in parliament, he could not anſwer for the ſupplies neceſſary for carrying on the war. At the ſame time, he very wiſely obſerved, that Mr. Pelham's conduct.

Geo. II. 1744. every particular department of national buſineſs ought to execute itſelf; that the affairs of the army ought entirely to be left to his royal highneſs the duke, and thoſe of the navy to the commiſſioners of the admiralty; and that no ſubject who was a ſervant of the king, ſhould be cenſured for his behaviour in parliament. He added, that provided this plan was purſued, he ſhould be amongſt the foremoſt to vote for ſupporting the ſyſtem his majeſty had adopted with the utmoſt vigour.

The miniſter perceived to what this plan tended. It was ſo wiſe, ſo noble, and ſo conſtitutional, that he could object to it with no decency; but he very frankly declared, that he perceived his continuance in the miniſtry longer, muſt be of prejudice to his majeſty's buſineſs. But as nothing particular was objected to his lordſhip, as his abilities were univerſally acknowledged, and as it would have been unjuſt to do any thing that might create the leaſt ſuſpicion of his loſing credit with his royal maſter, he was prevailed upon to keep the ſeals for ſome time longer.

The parliament ſits. On the 27th of November the parliament, after ſeveral prorogations, was opened by his majeſty with a moſt remarkable ſpeech from the throne. He ſaid,

His majeſty's ſpeech. "That it was a great ſatisfaction to meet them, and particularly ſo in this conjuncture, as the poſture of affairs abroad required their moſt ſerious conſideration. The events of the laſt ſummer having been ſo various, and ſome things having fallen out during the courſe of it ſo much to the diſadvantage of the common cauſe, the conſequences whereof remained ſtill undecided, that great attention muſt be given to them, and proper meaſures taken for preventing or removing the ill effects of them. That he had, in purſuance of their repeated advice, exerted his endeavours for the ſupport of the houſe of Auſtria, and in proſecution of the juſt and neceſſary war, in which he was engaged. The queen of Hungary had ſhown the greateſt conſtancy and reſolution; and the king of Poland, purſuant to his engagements with her, had ſent a very conſiderable force to her aſſiſtance. The king of Sardinia, with a magnanimity and firmneſs ſuperior to the greateſt difficulties, had, with the aſſiſtance of the Britiſh fleet, reſiſted the combined forces of France and Spain, ſent againſt him, and at laſt happily defeated an enterprize formed for his deſtruction, and for the reduction of Italy as well as for moſt of the ports in the Mediterranean under the power of the houſe of Bourbon. That though the ſucceſs of his majeſty had not been anſwerable to his wiſhes, yet the vaſt expectations

pectations and deſigns of his enemies, built upon new in- Geo. II.
trigues and alliances, and an additional ſtrength, had not 1744.
hitherto taken place, and would, he hoped, by the bleſſing
of God, and the mutual united vigour of Great Britain and
her allies, be diſappointed. That in conjunction with them,
and with their effectual aſſiſtance, and the ſupport of his par-
liament, his majeſty was determined to carry on the war in
ſuch a manner, as might be moſt conducive to that impor-
tant end, which was his ſole aim, a ſafe and honourable peace;
it being his firm reſolution never to abandon his allies, and
to procure the utmoſt ſecurity to the religion, liberties, and
commerce of his kingdoms. That, for this purpoſe, he had
always inſiſted, and was ſtill endeavouring with his allies,
particularly the States General of the United Provinces, to
fix the certain proportions of forces and expence, to be fur-
niſhed by each of the confederates, in the proſecution of the
war. Concluding, that nothing could add ſo much to the
weight and efficacy of the reſolutions of his parliament, as
unanimity and diſpatch."

Great notice was taken of this ſpeech; and his majeſty
owning, "that the ſucceſs of the laſt campaign had not been
anſwerable to his wiſhes," was laid hold of with great tri-
umph by the enemies of the miniſter, as an oblique condem-
nation, from the throne, of his meaſures. Both houſes voted Addreſſes of
loyal addreſſes of thanks. That from the houſe of peers both houſes.
ſaid, "That they looked with the utmoſt concern on thoſe
events which had fallen out, during the laſt ſummer, to the
diſadvantage of the common cauſe; and that their ſurprize
was no leſs when they conſidered the part that had been taken
by ſome powers ſo contrary to their own true and eſſential
intereſt." This was taken by the public as reflecting upon
the king of Pruſſia, and was therefore thought to be very
impolitic. The commons ſaid only, "That it was with the
deepeſt concern they reflected on what had happened laſt
ſummer, to the diſadvantage of the common cauſe; and
that as they could not but be extremely apprehenſive of the
conſequences of theſe events, ſo they would not only give
the greateſt attention to them, but exert their utmoſt endea-
vours to prevent or remove the ill effects of them."

The plan of removals and promotions being now fixed, Promotions.
there was in both houſes a perfect unanimity, and the whole 1745.
nation ſeemed to be pleaſed that they who had ſo much con-
demned the meaſures of the miniſtry, had now an opportu-
nity of practiſing what they had long recommended. It was
about Chriſtmas when the alterations were publicly known.

Mr.

Geo. II. 1745. Mr. Arundel and Mr. Littleton were made new commiſſioners of the treaſury, the other three being Mr. Pelham, the earl of Middleſex, and Mr. Fox. The duke of Bedford was made firſt lord of the admiralty, the other lords were, the earl of Sandwich, lord Archibald Hamilton, lord Vere Beauclerk, lord Baltimore, Mr. Anſon, and Mr. George Greenville. Mr. Doddington was made treaſurer of the navy. The privy ſeal was returned to lord Gower. Lord Monſon, colonel Bladen, Edward Aſhe, the honourable James Brudenel, Richard Plummer, Robert Herbert, eſqrs; with ſir John Philips and John Pitt, eſq; were made commiſſioners of trade and plantations. Sir John Hynd Cotton was appointed treaſurer of the chamber, and Mr. Waller, cofferer to his majeſty's houſehold. The earl of Cholmondley and lord Torrington were made joint vice-treaſurers of Ireland. The earl of Cheſterfield was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland, and his majeſty's ambaſſador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the States General. The duke of Devonſhire was made lord ſteward of the houſhold in the room of the duke of Dorſet, who was made preſident of the council in the room of the earl of Harrington, to whom it was reſolved to give the ſeals.

From thoſe promotions it appeared, that the ſpirit of the public, which they were intended to comply with, was chiefly ſet againſt thoſe who after having driven ſir Robert Walpole into the houſe of peers, had ſhared amongſt themſelves his power, and copied after his example, and who, it was thought, were too inconſiderable to be of ſervice or prejudice to any party.

His majeſty's notifications to his miniſters abroad.

It is incredible in what ſuſpence all Europe was, till the Britiſh miniſtry was ſettled. But leaſt the alterations that had been made ſhould produce any diſagreeable alteration in the ſyſtem of affairs abroad, the Britiſh miniſters reſident in foreign courts had orders to declare, that all that had been tranſacted with regard to the adminiſtration in Great Britain, was no more than a domeſtic concern, and that it ought not to influence the general ſyſtem, nor could it occaſion the ſmalleſt change in the affairs of Europe; becauſe his majeſty perſiſted invariably in his former reſolutions, both for the ſupport of his allies, and for procuring a ſolid and honourable peace.

Supplies voted.

It ſoon appeared that this aſſurance was true, and that the new miniſtry had not been eſtabliſhed with any deſign of altering the meaſures of the old. The national debt, ſince Chriſtmaſs 1743, was encreaſed 2,638,900 l. which upon the

the whole made the encreaſe of it ſince the commencement of the war with Spain about nine millions. The commons, however, were almoſt unanimous in granting for the ſervice of the enſuing year 6,462,890l. 2,000,000 of which was charged in an additional duty of 8l. on French and 4l. per ton on other wines; 800,000l. was granted on the ſinking fund, and 21,244l. from the ſurplus of the malt duty remaining in the exchequer. Forty thouſand ſeamen were voted for the ſervice of the current year, 28,107 men to be employed in Flanders, and 11,550 marines. The queen of Hungary's ſubſidies were now augmented to 500,000l. a year, and 500,000l. more was granted to his majeſty to make good his engagements with that princeſs, and to carry on the war with vigour. Geo. II. 1745.

Very little oppoſition was made in parliament to theſe grants, which indicated a full reſolution to purſue the meaſures of the late miniſter. The ſubſidies to the king of Sardinia, the electors of Cologn and Mentz, were likewiſe continued. And a quadruple alliance between the queen of Hungary, the king of Poland, his Britannic majeſty, and the States General, was concluded at Warſaw. The chief articles of this alliance, which had a great effect upon the affairs of Europe, were,

That his Poliſh majeſty, as elector of Saxony, confirms and renews the guaranty of the pragmatic ſanction, and promiſes to ſupport it with all his forces. That the kingdom of Bohemia being actually attacked, his Poliſh majeſty ſhall immediately act with an army of 30,000 auxiliary troops for its defence. That his Britannic majeſty and the States General ſhall pay an annual ſubſidy to the king of Poland of 150,000l. ſterling, of which his Britannic majeſty is to pay 100,000l. and the States General 50,000l. That as ſoon as Bohemia and Saxony ſhall be out of danger, his Poliſh majeſty ſhall march 10,000 men to the Netherlands, or any other place within the empire, that the king of Great Britain and the States General ſhall think proper, for which a ſubſidy of 90,000l. is to be continued, of which 60,000l. is to be paid by his Britannic majeſty, and 30,000l. by the States General. That in caſe his Poliſh majeſty ſhould, in conſequence of theſe meaſures, draw upon himſelf a war, he ſhall be ſupported therein by his allies. That no peace ſhall be made without his conſent, or obtaining for him proper ſatisfaction. By a ſubſequent article, the empreſs of Ruſſia and the republic of Poland were invited to accede to this treaty, (which

Subſtance of the treaty of Warſaw.

Geo. II. 1745. (which was to continue in force after the war,) as were all the other powers in Europe.

Nothing was wanting on the part of the new miniſtry that could perſuade his majeſty they were in earneſt to carry on the war. The land-forces they had on foot in Britain, Ireland, Flanders, and their ſettlements abroad, made 22 regiments of cavalry, and 66 of infantry, the whole amounting to about 80,000 men. Forty thouſand ſeamen, as has been mentioned, had been voted, and almoſt all the ſhips in the royal navy were put into commiſſion.

The earl of Granville betrayed no diſcontent at reſigning the ſeals, which he did with a very good grace, as having his adminiſtration approved of by the imitation of his ſucceſſors. The earl of Harrington received the ſeals, and there ~~ſcarcely~~ was a diviſion in parliament. The uſual patriot bills were indeed moved for, and met with their uſual fate of being rejected; and all Britain was intent upon the operations of war only. In March his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland received his commiſſion, appointing him captain general of all his majeſty's forces in Britain and abroad. This appointment was generally applauded. The duke's courage was unqueſtionable, and the beſt judges of military merit pronounced, that with an excellent genius he had already made a great progreſs in the art of war.

Duke of Cumberland appointed captain general.

It was about this time that ſir Robert Walpole, earl of Orford, died. The reader has already ſeen his character when a miniſter; but it received an additional luſtre by his behaviour in retirement, which was as eaſy, and as elegant, as that of a Scipio or a Lælius. He had a happineſs peculiar to himſelf, that though he reſigned his places, he never loſt a friend; and had he been fond of returning into the adminiſtration, he ſtill had ſo much influence in both houſes as might, in the late divided ſtate of parties, have replaced him in power. But he gave a noble proof of his gratitude and loyalty, by uſing all his intereſt with his friends, even to his death, to promote the ſervice of his majeſty, and to drop all oppoſition that could embarraſs it.

Death of the earl of Orford.

All the applications to the Dutch, though made in the moſt preſſing manner, and from the moſt reſpectable perſonages, had been hitherto ineffectual for prevailing upon them to abandon their neutrality, and becoming principals in the war. The great excuſe alledged by the friends of France amongſt them was, the fluctuating ſtate of the Britiſh miniſtry, which might abandon them to the reſentment of France. The

Earl of Cheſterfield's embaſſy to Holland.

ſeeming unanimity both in the parliament and the nation, gave the new miniſtry room to hope, that that objection would be now dropt; and to demonſtrate how cordial all parties now were in the proſecution of the war, the earl of Cheſterfield, in January this year, went over to Holland upon his embaſſy. His lordſhip, before he ſet out, had but very faint hopes of ſucceſs; but could there have been a poſſibility of convincing a prejudiced, or of influencing a determined, people, he muſt have done it. Yet his eloquence and addreſs were not wholly loſt, and he did more than any other man could have done; for though he could not perſuade them to become principals in the war, he brought them to ſettle their quotas of troops, fleets and ſubſidies. Geo. II. 1745.

State of Europe.

The death of the emperor Charles VII. in the beginning of this year, gave a new turn to the affairs of Europe. He died under a complication of diſtempers, contracted by the continual loſſes and mortifications he had met with ſince his being elected to the Imperial dignity. All the effect it had in England, was to invigorate the meaſures of the miniſtry for puſhing on the war. This could not be done without incurring an additional expence, and that occaſioned ſome abatement of that unanimity which had hitherto diſtinguiſhed this ſeſſion. The 500,000l. which was voted for carrying on the war, was oppoſed in the committee, but was carried by a majority of 185 againſt 54. Upon the report it was again oppoſed, but carried by a majority of 247 againſt 109. Though the party againſt continuing the war at ſo great an expence had got over a few of the late lord Orford's friends to vote for them, yet it was too inconſiderable to be termed an oppoſition. Few caſes like that of the 500,000l. could happen, and in all queſtions of leſs importance, there was no debate or diviſion. Sir John Philips, however, who had accepted of being a commiſſioner of trade and plantations, about this time reſigned his ſeat at that board. On the 14th of February his majeſty, to ſhew to all the world the good underſtanding between him and his parliament, went to the houſe of peers, and returned them thanks for their unanimity and diſpatch, and acquainted them with his having concluded the treaty of Warſaw. Many excellent bills for the internal good of Great Britain paſſed this ſeſſion, particularly for encouraging the Britiſh and Iriſh manufactory, and for prohibiting the wearing and importation of cambrics and French lawns. On the 2d of May his majeſty finiſhed the ſeſſion by a ſpeech, in which there was nothing particular, excepting what will be found in the courſe of this hiſtory.

The

Geo. II. 1745.

The day the parliament roſe, his majeſty declared in council, that he was reſolved to leave the kingdom for a ſhort time, and he appointed the following regency during his abſence; John lord archbiſhop of Canterbury, Philip lord Hardwick lord chancellor, Lionel duke of Dorſet lord preſident, John lord Gower lord privy-ſeal, William duke of Devonſhire lord ſteward, Charles duke of Grafton lord chamberlain, Charles duke of Richmond maſter of the horſe, Charles duke of Bolton, John duke of Bedford firſt commiſſioner of the admiralty, John duke of Montague maſter-general of the ordnance, Archibald duke of Argyle, Thomas Holles duke of Newcaſtle, one of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, John marquis of Tweedale, another of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, Henry earl of Pembroke groom of the ſtole, Philip earl of Cheſterfield lord-lieutenant of Ireland, John earl of Stair field-marſhal of the forces, William earl of Harrington, another of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, William earl of Bath, Richard lord viſcount Cobham, field-marſhal of the forces, and Henry Pelham, eſq; chancellor of the exchequer, and firſt commiſſioner of the treaſury.

Regency in the king's abſence.

The warlike operations, in which the people of England were immediately engaged in this year, were ſo various, ſo rapid, and ſo intereſting, that the reader is only to expect the moſt important to be related.

His majeſty declares himſelf a principal in the war as elector of Hanover.

His majeſty, before he left England, in order to give an additional effect to the negotiation of the earl of Cheſterfield, ordered the baron de Schwigeldt, his Hanoverian miniſter at the Hague, to declare in his name, "That his Britannic majeſty perſiſting in the deſign of continuing, and even redoubling his efforts for the defence of the common cauſe, and for the ſupport of the ſtaggering ſyſtem of Europe, is reſolved to take part directly, as elector, in the plan of operations, which is to be concerted with Holland, and to furniſh thereto his contingent of German troops, independent of the ſuccours which his majeſty propoſes to give the queen of Hungary. That, beſides he will cauſe another body to march, which ſhall be employed as neceſſity ſhall require: that as to the electoral troops, which are in march to join the army of the allies upon the Rhine, they ſhall act either ſeparately or jointly in the Low Countries, or in the empire, as ſhall be agreed on between their High Mightineſſes; and that for theſe reaſons, his Britannic majeſty, as elector of Hanover, demands to be admitted and acknowledged upon the footing of a principal contracting party, in every

every thing that ſhall be concerted againſt the common ene- Geo. II.
my, and that he expected the ſaid baron de Schwigeldt with the 1745.
neceſſary and full powers to aſſiſt at the conferences, which
the allies ſhall hold at the Hague, for their mutual ſecurity
and defence."

This magnanimity of his Britannic majeſty was the more remarkable, as the events of laſt year had turned the ſcale of war againſt the houſe of Auſtria. Maillebois was ſtill with his army in Germany, overawing the neutral princes, and oppreſſing the friends of the queen of Hungary. Her revenues were greatly exhauſted by the vaſt expence ſhe had been put to, in maintaining her armies. Her loſs of territories in Sileſia and Flanders, was far from being compenſated by any advantages ſhe had gained, and her ſubſidies from Great Britain, vaſt as they were, were unequal to her occaſions. State of the queen of Hungary,

France, on the other hand, ſeemed to grow in power, as her difficulties increaſed. The armies ſhe now brought into the field, though not ſo great as her creatures gave out, were more numerous and better appointed, than any ſhe had ever employed before, and both her king and her generals, from what they had experienced in the laſt campaign, had conceived a kind of contempt for the forces of the allies. The money, which had been remitted to them from Spain, and the funds, that had been invented for increaſing the king's revenue, had enabled them to do prodigious things, and to carry on the war another campaign under infinite diſadvantages of ſituation. and of the French.

The death of the emperor had diſconcerted their whole plan of politics, and conſequently of operations, in Germany, by diſſolving, in a manner, the league of Frankfort, the avowed intention of which, was the ſupport of the Imperial dignity. The young elector of Bavaria was but ſeventeen years of age, and though ſome of the French miniſtry were for making him a candidate to ſucceed his father, yet Tencin, who had now a great deal of influence over the French king, oppoſed it, and urged, that the war ſhould be carried on with vigour in Flanders, where the French already had the ſuperiority, and where they were ſure of ſucceeding. This opinion was moſt agreeable to that of his moſt Chriſtian majeſty himſelf, and moſt conformable to the ſentiments of the young elector, who, however, continued to receive a ſubſidy from France. The king of Poland was next thought of, and propoſed at the French court, for emperor. An application was therefore made to him for that purpoſe, and the French offered him part of the ſpoils of the Auſtrian

ſuc-

Geo. II. 1745. ſucceſſion. That prince was far from being de[illegible] Ambition, but he had ſeen in the perſon of the late emperor a moſt tragical example of French deluſion. His miniſter count Bruhl, likewiſe repreſented the difficulty he would lie under to keep poſſeſſion of the crown of Poland, and of the Imperial dignity, at the ſame time. Upon the whole, therefore, he choſe to continue to receive the Britiſh ſubſidy, and to be the ally of the queen of Hungary.

The king of Pruſſia, the next party in the treaty of Frankfort, notwithſtanding his vaſt loſſes laſt year, had recruited his armies with incomparable quickneſs, and might ſtill be an able and a uſeful ally to France. But ſhe was conſcious that he reſented her ſuffering prince Charles to repaſs the Rhine, which was the ſource of all the misfortunes he had met with. The French, therefore, not being abſolutely ſure of that monarch's alliance, ſoon after the death of the emperor, declared, that as they looked upon the treaty of Frankfort as no longer ſubſiſting, they were willing to agree to propoſals for a general pacification, and that his moſt Chriſtian majeſty was determined not to intermeddle in the election of an emperor.

This declaration was far from diſpoſing the queen of Hungary to any pacific diſpoſition. She ſtill imagined ſhe ſhould be able to dethrone the king of Naples, recover Sileſia, and beat the French in Flanders. Add to this, the court of Spain abſolutely inſiſted upon the ſettlement of don Philip in Italy, to whom the French king had given his own daughter in marriage. Such were the conſiderations, that, at this time, prevented any motion for a peace taking place. The people of England ſeemed not at all averſe from trying the fate of war for another year. His majeſty's engagements with the queen of Hungary were as ſtrong, if not ſtronger than ever. The nation had been conſiderable gainers by the war with France and Spain at ſea, and but very inconſiderable loſers at land. But above all, in caſe of a peace, the reduction of the French power, which was the great motive for the expenſive armaments they had made, muſt be left unaccompliſhed, and that ambitious people would not fail to take the firſt opportunity of renewing the troubles of Europe with greater advantages to themſelves than ever.

The armies aſſemble. Upwards of 28,000 Britiſh effective troops were this year employed in Flanders, which, joined by the Auſtrians and the Dutch, formed an army of no more than 53,000 men, while that of the French amounted in the ſame country to upwards of 76,000 of the beſt troops they had. They like-

likewiſe had 160 pieces of heavy cannon, and 60 mortars, and on the 26th of March they aſſembled between Dunkirk and Valenciennes. It had been reſolved in their council that their monarch ſhould head them. The duke of Cumberland arrived at the Hague on the 7th of April, and after holding a conference with the members and regents of the States-General, he hurry'd to Bruſſels, which he reached on the 10th, where he met prince Waldeck, the commander in chief of the Dutch troops, and marſhal count Konigſegg. His royal highneſs then immediately apply'd himſelf to the affairs of the army, with a diligence and attention equal to that of the moſt experienced generals; and notwithſtanding the diſparity of numbers, his preſence, affability and addreſs, gave his troops invincible ſpirits. From Bruſſels, he marched his army to Soignies in Hanault. Geo. II. 1745.

His royal highneſs, however, had vaſt difficulties to encounter, beſides the ſuperiority of numbers and artillery that was againſt him. The French king ſeemed determined to ſtake his crown upon the fate of the campaign. The dauphin had been married to the ſecond infanta of Spain but the February before, yet he could not be diſſuaded from attending his father to the field. His nobility had amongſt themſelves no competition, but how to demonſtrate the moſt profound reſignation to the will of their ſovereign; and the duke of Noailles, notwithſtanding his ſeniority and high quality, was proud to command under marſhal Saxe, who was a foreigner and a proteſtant. It was, upon the opinion the French had of that great general, that they founded their hopes of ſucceſs. He made many feints, marches and counter-marches, to amuſe the confederates, but at laſt, on the 24th of April, he inveſted the town of Tournay, on the river Scheld, thirteen miles eaſt of Liſle, and twenty-one miles weſt of Mons, and eſteemed to be the ſtrongeſt place of the Dutch barrier. On the 30th the trenches were opened, and it was to relieve this important town, that the confederates had advanced to Soignies. Tournay beſieged.

Tournay was garriſoned by 8000 Dutch, commanded by baron Dorth. The reſolution of obliging the French to raiſe the ſiege of Tournay, was ſtrengthened by the expreſs orders of the States-General, for the ſame purpoſe. A council of war being held, the confederate generals encamped with the right at Bougnies, and the left at Moubray, within a little more than muſket-ſhot of the advanced poſts of the enemy. Marſhal Saxe had foreſeen the intention of the confederates, and he underſtood that the duke of Cumber- Poſition of the two armies.

Geo. II. 1745. land was determined to uſe his utmoſt efforts to retrieve the glory of the Britiſh arms, which had been tarniſhed by the inactivity of the laſt campaign. By ſome delays, which are too frequent in the councils of confederate armies, Saxe had gained time to make the moſt formidable diſpoſitions, by intrenchments and batteries, in which he was aſſiſted by the nature of the ground. The two armies were ſeparated by a little rivulet on the left of the allies, which lay on the right of the French, who poſſeſſed Antoin, where a moſt dreadful battery was erected. They had in their center a battery of the ſame kind, and before that lay the village of Fontenoy, intrenched, and moſt formidably fortified. The intermediate ſpace between the two armies, was a gently riſing ground, which the allies had to aſcend, and which the French had interſected with intrenchments, that were lined with troops, while on their left lay Barri wood, which, leſt the allies ſhould attempt to encompaſs it, was full of lines and fortifications. The ſtation of the French king was at the bridge of Callonne, which, in caſe of a defeat, he could repaſs, the bridge being defended with intrenchments, well mounted with cannon, and ſupported with the flower of his nobility and army. In ſhort, never was there an attack made under more diſadvantageous circumſtances, than that of the confederates upon the French, and never was there an army better ſecured, than that of the French was, having no fewer than 266 pieces of artillery, all of them mounted, and pointed againſt the confederates.

Attack of the confederates.

The firſt object of the confederates was to drive the enemy from all their little poſts, ſo as to be able to get into the plain. This ſervice fell to the Engliſh. On the 30th of April, ſix battalions, and twelve ſquadrons, with five hundred pioneers, ſix pieces of cannon, and ten haubitzers, were commanded from each wing for that ſervice, which was happily performed, and the enemy were driven to the very top of the riſing ground, near their camp, where they drew up, and began afreſh to fortify themſelves. The three confederate generals then went upon the ground from which the enemy had been driven, and having viewed it, a reſolution was taken to attack the enemy next morning, which was the firſt of May, by two o'clock. The right wing was compoſed of the Engliſh and the Hanoverians, and theſe were to form in four lines, before the village of Vizon. The left wing, which conſiſted of the Dutch and the Auſtrians, was to march up in three columns; the firſt, which was cavalry, was to march along the village of Vizon, the

ſecond,

ſecond, which was infantry, was to march through that vil- Geo. II.
lage, and the third was to ſtretch into the plain between Fon- 1745.
tenoy and Antoin, prince Waldeck having engaged to attack Fontenoy. To facilitate thoſe operations, the duke of Cumberland ordered brigadier Ingoldſby, with four good battalions, and three ſix-pounders, to attack a fort in the front of the village of Vizon, which was mounted with cannon. Lieutenant-general ſir James Campbell was ordered to cover the infantry of the right wing, which was commanded by lieutenant-general ſir John Ligonier; and ſir James had orders to extend himſelf with fifteen ſquadrons along the plain, from the wood towards the village of Fontenoy, which would greatly have facilitated count Waldeck's attack, but the ſucceſs of the whole depended greatly upon Ingoldſby's carrying the fort of Vizon. But the brigadier-general having an Hanoverian regiment, which lay at ſome diſtance, to take along with him, he was obliged to halt till it joined him. This gave the enemy leiſure to make their diſpoſitions about the fort ſtronger, which obliged him to conſult with his officers in what manner he ſhould attack the fort; and to this delay, was in a great meaſure owing the ill ſucceſs of the day. In the mean while, ſir James Campbell's leg was carried off by a cannon-ball, and he loſt his life. By this accident, and by the dreadful fire made by the enemy, the Engliſh infantry, under ſir John Ligonier, were left expoſed, but were formed by him with admirable diſpatch; and the duke of Cumberland putting himſelf at their head, marched up to attack the left wing of the French at Antoin, while prince Waldeck, with the Hanoverians, and twelve Dutch battalions, moved, as had been concerted, to attack Fontenoy. There is not in all hiſtory an inſtance of a more intrepid or a better conducted attack, than that made by the duke of Cumberland upon Antoin. Notwithſtanding the incredible fire made by the French, which ſwept off whole ranks at every diſcharge, both officers and men marched up, as if they had thought themſelves invulnerable, and poured in their fire upon the enemy at thirty paces diſtance. The fury of their attack broke the French infantry, and they were driven off the field of battle three hundred paces beyond the fort and the village. The French generals upon this ordered their cavalry to advance, while their infantry, which had been driven to their camp, formed, and opened a concealed battery, which deſtroyed the Engliſh in greater numbers than ever. Notwithſtanding that, had Ingoldſby's attack at Vizon ſucceeded, the Engliſh muſt have gained a compleat victory,

Geo. II. 1745. or had the Dutch, under prince Waldeck, behaved well, the French king and his ſon, in all probability, would have been made priſoners. But the duke was forced to advance through the hollow-way, which was commanded by the fort, that Ingoldſby was to have attacked, the Britiſh troops were thereby expoſed to all the fire from that fort, and to great numbers of croſs fires, which plied them on all hands, and did prodigious execution. As to prince Waldeck's attack, he has not been blamed on the ſcore either of courage or conduct; but the Dutch behaved with puſillanimity, in not ſupporting him, and thereby taking part of the enemy's fire off from the Engliſh.

They retire, The duke of Cumberland, in this diſtreſs from the enemy's fire, ordered his men to retire to the height of Fontenoy and the fort near the wood; but here the enemy's fire was almoſt as hot as ever, and the troops fell into ſome diſorder. His royal highneſs, however, ſoon formed them again, and again advanced to the attack, which was made in ſuch good order, and with ſuch intrepidity, that the braveſt troops of France were driven off the field of battle; and marſhal Saxe ſeeing how cool and determined the Engliſh appeared, and that all the fire from his troops and batteries, neither diſordered them, nor obliged them to deſiſt from advancing, gave orders to one of his aid-de-camps to beg the French king and the dauphin to repaſs the bridge of Calonne.

But renew the charge.

To do juſtice to thoſe princes, their preſence ſaved their troops from a total defeat. The king had been ſince three in the morning on horſeback, and had been extremely active, not only in animating, but in forming, his men. He was well ſeconded by his ſon, and nothing but the affection the French had for their perſons, and the alacrity which their preſence inſpired, could now have prevented their yielding the field to the valour of the Engliſh. But Lewis declared he was determined not to repaſs the bridge, and though many balls flew about him and the dauphin, he continued to give orders with great ſpirit and preſence of mind. The more the Engliſh advanced, the more the ground ſtraitened, and conſequently the more deep and impenetrable their column grew. They had now an opportunity of returning the fire of the French, and the execution they did with their muſquets, was incredible. Had they been able to have made themſelves maſters of Fontenoy, which now lay upon their flank, the battle would have been decided in their favour; but the French making their greateſt effort there, and the Dutch

Dutch having deſiſted from the attack on the front of the village, the Engliſh were obliged to preſs on, which they did, with ſuch reſolution, that they puſhed whole ſquadrons againſt the place where the king and the dauphin were poſted, and they were for ſome time ſeparated from one another, by the crowds of flyers. The numbers of noblemen and officers, who flew to their king's danger, occaſioned the ſlaughter to fall heavy upon them. Battalions upon battalions, and ſquadrons upon ſquadrons, preſented themſelves before the Engliſh, but they were as often obliged to retire, with the loſs of their braveſt men. At laſt, a freſh reinforcement of troops arrived from Doway, but theſe, like the others, were repulſed; and while Saxe was obſerving in what condition Fontenoy was, the attack from the French became promiſcuous and irregular, while the Engliſh continued to keep up the ſteadineſs of their fire, as if no danger had been near them; and their cannon, which they dragged along, did now good execution. Geo. II. 1745.

Marſhal count Saxe now began in good earneſt to think of a retreat. Perceiving that his maſter's retreat over the bridge of Calonne might be cut off, he ordered the troops that were poſted in Antoin, to evacuate that place, and to march to the bridge. The Dutch might have, immediately upon this evacuation, taken poſſeſſion of Antoin, but they did not; moſt of them were fled to Aeth and other towns, and thoſe who ſtaid, kept at too great a diſtance to know any thing of the evacuation. The Engliſh column of infantry was ſupported by few or no cavalry; theſe laſt being cut off from joining them, by the fire from a redoubt before Vizon, at the point of Barri wood, the ſame that Ingoldſby ought to have attacked; and that from Fontenoy, which interſected their march. But the Engliſh little knew that the French in Fontenoy had now only powder to fire with, and were actually waiting for a ſupply of ball. The French almoſt defeated,

The officers about the king's perſon did not know that the Engliſh were ignorant of this, and expecting every moment that the great column of their infantry, which continued ſtill firm, would be ſupported by their cavalry, advancing between the point of Barri wood and the village of Fontenoy, and that the Dutch would, as they eaſily might have done, advance between the redoubt of Battens, (ſo called, becauſe they were guarded by a Swiſs regiment of that name) orders were given for all the troops and artillery that could be brought off, to remove towards the bridge of Calonne. The king ſtill remained there; his houſhold troops, where his laſt

Geo. II. 1745. reſource lay, were yet unbroken, and by the meaſures that Saxe had taken, the ſucceſs of the action at the bridge muſt be deciſive of the day, as the Engliſh muſt be either obliged to retire, or the French enabled to make their retreat over the bridge. It was with this view that the French generals had determined to make their laſt ſtand there; but when their artillery were carrying back for that purpoſe, marſhal Saxe, though others ſay the duke de Richelieu, ordered four pieces of cannon to be inſtantly placed in the front of the Engliſh column, and while they were moſt deſperately galled with theſe, a general attack was made by all the French army, that were either unbroken, or had rally'd. The Engliſh ſuffered the moſt from the Iriſh brigades in this new engagement; and the main attack, which was made by the gens d'arms, under the prince of Soubiſe, by the light horſe, under the duke de Chaulnes, on the one flank, and by the Iriſh brigades, under lord Clare, the regiment of Normandy, and other rally'd troops, on the other, while the front of the Engliſh column continued to ſuffer by the artillery, put an end to the diſpute. The Engliſh could not ſtand longer, and their front being at laſt diſordered by the artillery, the houſhold troops, the guards, and muſqueteers, broke in upon it, and rendered a retreat unavoidable. About one o'clock the Britiſh troops began again to retire to the ground between the point of the wood and the village of Fontenoy, which they effected, without any other diſorder, than was occaſioned by the inequalities of the hollow-way, over which they were obliged to paſs. Marſhal Saxe ordered them to be purſued by the French cavalry, but they ſoon deſiſted, being ſeverely handled by the Britiſh guards and the Hanoverians, who were there, under major-general Zaſtrow. From that ground they directed their march, being now covered in the rear by the cavalry, to Bruffoel, and from thence, that ſame night, to Leſſines, near Aeth, but were obliged to leave moſt of their wounded at Bruffoel, where they were made priſoners by the French.

but gain the victory.

Though the Britiſh troops were worſted in this engagement, yet marſhal Saxe and the French generals could not help acknowledging they deſerved a better fate, both on account of the courage they exerted, and the diſpoſitions they made, to ſucceed. The moſt experienced generals on both ſides ſaid, that if the confederates were defective in any point of conduct, it was in not having ſufficiently reconnoitred the ground where their attacks were to be made, and in being conſequently ſurprized by the concealed batteries of the enemy.

my. But had the Dutch done their duty, and had the orders given by the duke of Cumberland to brigadier-general Ingoldſby, been executed, or at leaſt underſtood, it is more than probable, that the French muſt have been intirely defeated. In this battle, the Hanoverians, by their behaviour, ſilenced all the charges that had been brought againſt them for their conduct at Dettingen; and the Dutch diſgraced all the glories, which their anceſtors had ſo often acquired in the cauſe of liberty. Geo. II. 1745.

The loſs of the Britiſh in this battle was more conſiderable than was publiſhed by authority; and yet, conſidering the circumſtances attending it, it was leſs than could have been reaſonably imagined. Beſides lieutenant-general ſir James Campbell, who was eſteemed one of the beſt officers of horſe in Europe, major-general Ponſonby, brother to the earl of Beſborough, was killed, as were the colonels Carpenter, and Douglas, brother to the earl of Morton, and a great many officers of the guards. The loſs was not proportionable in the other regiments. Durour's ſuffered greatly, its lieutenant-colonel, Whitmore, being killed, as were the lieutenant-colonels Gee, of Bligh's regiment, Montague, of Handaſyde's, Clements, of Johnſon's. The loſs of the cavalry was inconſiderable, not above 340 men; and the whole publiſhed liſt of the Britiſh loſs, was made to amount in killed to 4041 men; perhaps, including thoſe who died of the wounded, they were 7000. The loſs of the Hanoverians was publiſhed to be 1762, which calculation ſeems to have been pretty exact; and the Dutch gave out their loſs to be in killed and wounded, 1544. The French very induſtriouſly concealed their loſs; but from the great numbers of their killed and wounded officers, whom they could not conceal, their loſs ſeems to have been much greater than that of the allies. The duke de Gramont and three other lieutenant-generals were killed, as were four major-generals, and three brigadiers. Two of their lieutenant-generals were wounded, three major-generals, and thirty-ſix brigadiers and colonels of regiments, the greateſt part of whom died of their wounds. The confederates loſt no colours, ſtandards, or kettle-drums, but a great many cannon, through the puſillanimity of the drivers, who run off with their horſes. The loſs on both ſides.

CHAP. V.

Progreſs of the war in the Low Countries—The French make themſelves maſters of Tournay—Ghent—Oudenard—Oſtend—Newport—Aeth—and all the towns in Auſtrian Flanders—Affairs in Holland—in Ruſſia—in Sweden—in Poland—Conduct of the young elector of Bavaria—who makes peace with the queen of Hungary—Duke of Tuſcany elected emperor—King of Pruſſia defeats the Auſtrians and Saxons at Friberg—The convention of Hanover—Rejected by Auſtria and Saxony—The king of Pruſſia breaks into Saxony, and takes Dreſden—Progreſs of the Italian war—The Britiſh fleet bombards Genoa and its dependencies—Vaſt ſucceſſes of the Bourbonites in Italy—Louiſburg beſieged and taken by the Engliſh.

Geo. II. 1745. VARIOUS were the reports concerning the treatment of the wounded, who were left at Bruſſoel. Some cruel unwarrantable things were doubtleſs committed, but the French officers ſeem not to have authoriſed them. The duke of Cumberland wrote to Saxe about a change of priſoners; but Saxe, though he promiſed that the ſick and wounded ſhould be taken care of, ſaid, that his moſt Chriſtian majeſty intended to detain all priſoners, till he received ſatisfaction for the breach of the cartel, that had been committed in the perſons of marſhal Belliſle and his brother, who were ſtill detained in England.

Change of priſoners refuſed by the French.

The Engliſh miniſtry, by this time, having re-conſidered the caſe of the cartel, very ingenuouſly owned to the marſhal Belliſle, that it did ſubſiſt, but that as he was no priſoner of war, he could not have the benefit of it. The affair, however, had been left by his majeſty to the conſideration of the marſhals Stair, Cobham and Wade, who, after a due examination of papers and Belliſle's commiſſions, were of opinion, that he and his brother were priſoners of war, upon which they were ſet at liberty, upon their undertaking to obtain for the Engliſh priſoners, in the hands of the French, the benefit of the cartel. Some complaints were brought of the French having fired at the confederates pieces of glaſs, old iron, and other materials, contrary to the eſtabliſhed rules

Marſhal Belliſle and his brother ſet at liberty.

rules of war; but the French alledged, that the same thing was practised by the allies at the battle of Dettingen; perhaps the complaints on both sides were exaggerated, by busy, ill-meaning people. Geo. II. 1745.

The French, besides the cannon which they had carried with them to the field, had drawn off a numerous artillery from before Tournay, for the use of their army at the battle of Fontenoy. That siege was but weakly continued, by a body of men left before the place; and some British officers, who happened to be there, having had intelligence how things were passing at Fontenoy, proposed to the governor making a sally with some part of the garrison, which, without doubt, might have been attended with good, if not decisive, consequences. But the governor excused himself under the orders he had received from his masters, and because the inhabitants of the place were greatly inclined to be under French government. After the battle of Fontenoy, the siege was renewed; the cannon remounted, and the fire against the place was redoubled. By the 19th of May, the French were in possession of the out-works, and preparing to batter in breach. Upon this, the governor desired and obtained a parley; and an eventual convention was agreed upon, by which the governor, upon certain conditions, was to give up the citadel, provided his masters, to whom he was to be at liberty to send a courier, approved of the same. But in the mean time, he said that he was willing to give up the town to the French, the garrison retiring into the citadel; that all hostilities should cease, till he had a return by his courier, which was fixed to the 13th of June, and if the return was unfavourable, the siege of the citadel was to be carried on under certain conditions, of not annoying the town. When the courier arrived at the Hague, the governor's convention was referred to the consideration of the confederate generals, whose opinion was, for his defending the citadel to the last. This answer being known to the French by the 1st of June, the siege of the citadel began with the utmost fury, and continued with great loss on both sides. At last, the governor, whose garrison was said to have been reduced to 5,300 men, was obliged to give up the place. The garrison was permitted to march out with military honours, some cannon and mortars, but obliged not to bear arms against France or her allies, for 18 months.

Siege of Tournay.

The town surrendered, as is the citadel.

The reader is here to observe, that the French, during this war, had, by the abilities of Lowendahl, who has been mentioned at the siege of Friburg, and marshal Saxe, and some

General reflections.

Geo. II. 1745. ſome of their own engineers, carried the art of beſieging places to a much greater height than ever was known before, and with much greater ſafety to their own men. This was a great diſcouragement to the allies, who ſaw that no place, unleſs they could raiſe its ſiege, could hold out above a certain time. The French, likewiſe, during this war, adopted two new maxims in war. The one was, always to give as good terms as a garriſon could well require, provided they became maſters of the place; and the other was, after they became maſters of certain places, to demoliſh the fortifications, that the barrier might ceaſe to be a bone of contention between them and their neighbours. Tournay experienced this fate.

The true reaſon why the confederate generals had thought it proper for the governor of Tournay to defend the citadel to the laſt, was becauſe his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland believed it ſtill practicable by another ſeaſonable attempt to raiſe the ſiege. Negotiations were on foot for reinforcements, and ſome freſh ſupplies were every day expected from England. But the backwardneſs of the Dutch generals, who were inſtructed by their maſters, put a check upon all expectations of vigour; and though they were extremely deſirous of ſaving their barrier, yet they would not conſent, after the battle of Fontenoy, to riſk any thing in the field. This caution proved ruinous to their intereſt.

Situation of the French and allied armies.

The French, who to great activity added great ſecrecy, were impenetrable in their deſigns. The ally'd army lay ſtill encamped at Leſſines, which was thought to be a poſt very proper for preſerving Flanders, by preventing the French from paſſing the Scheld, or obliging them to fight in an open country, where the confederate cavalry might act. The French, on the other hand, after the reduction of Tournay, made a point of beſieging Aeth; but all of a ſudden they advanced to Leſſines, upon which the confederates removed to Grammont, and drew up in expectation of another battle. But the enterprizing Lowendahl, with a detachment of 15,000 men, had ſecretly marched to Points d'Eſpiere, with a view of ſurprizing Ghent, while the confederates were amuſed with their preparations for a battle, which was, by no means, the intention of the French. They drew off from Leſſines and Grammont, and made diſpoſitions as if they intended to cut off the communication of the allies from Flanders and Brabant.

A council of war amongſt the confederate generals was held, but great difficulties occurred as to their future operations.

tions. It was debated, whether they ought to ſtand their ground in the advantagious ſituation they then were. The Dutch and ſome of the Engliſh generals were of a contrary opinion, and carried the queſtion for retiring to Bruſſels, by which they left Oudenard, Ghent, and Bruges expoſed to the French. His royal highneſs, however, before this, ſuſpected that Louendahl had an eye upon Ghent, where the Engliſh had ſome troops, and a great deal of baggage. He therefore ordered Molck, a lieutenant general of the Hanoverians, to put himſelf at the head of three ſquadrons of Riche's dragoons, one of the battalions of Sinclair's foot, the regiments of Bligh and Handaſyde, 700 huſſars, and five ſquadrons of Dutch and Auſtrians, and to obſerve the motions of Lowendahl. But when theſe could be no longer a ſecret, Molck had orders to proceed immediately to ſecure Ghent. Lowendahl had the ſtart of him, and on the 29th of June, when dark, he arrived on the cauſeway of Ghent, and made an attempt to ſurprize that city; it miſcarried at firſt, but by the boldneſs of his volunteers the town was taken before the inhabitants, or the Engliſh who were in it, had time to leave their beds.

Geo. II. 1745.

The latter retire to Bruſſels.

Ghent ſurpriſed by the French.

In the mean while, Lowendahl, apprized of Molck's intention, had poſted a ſtrong detachment in ambuſcade, with batteries and cannon, at the priory of Melle, to the right of the cauſeway; and before Molck's party paſſed, they were attacked with great diſadvantage. Molck himſelf, however, paſſed and reached Ghent; but underſtanding it had been ſurpriſed by the enemy, he turned off with the cavalry he had with him towards Sluice, where the Dutch governor refuſed him admittance, upon which he was obliged to throw himſelf into Oſtend. The behaviour of the Dutch governor of Sluice, was highly reſented in Great Britain; he defended himſelf under his oath, to admit no foreign troops into his garriſon; the king of Great Britain complained of this, and his maſters, to huſh up the matter, gave him a gentle reprimand for puniſhment.

Molck retires.

Behaviour of a Dutch governor.

Brigadier Bligh, who commanded that part of the Britiſh troops who were cut off from the party under Molck, and which conſiſted of his own regiment, that of Handaſyde, and the Dutch and Auſtrian ſquadrons, finding it impoſſible to follow Molck, after gaining a ſmall wood that lay at ſome diſtance, retired to Dendermond. The whole of this ambuſcade coſt the allies more than they were willing to own, for they loſt upwards of a fourth part of their detachment; which conſiſted of 4000 men, with a great number of horſes.

Bligh eſcapes.

Moſt

Geo. II. 1745.

Moſt of the garriſon in Ghent were Engliſh, and part of them, with the baggage of the whole, being taken by the French, the reſt retired into the citadel, which on the 13th of July hung out a white flag, and the garriſon ſurrendered themſelves priſoners of war. The French, upon the whole, in all this enterprize, which was at once ſo wiſely and rapidly conducted, did not loſe above 500 men. But the conſequences were great. Bruges was ſummoned, and ſurrendered to the French without reſiſtance. Oudenard, on the 6th of July, was inveſted by the French; and though well fortified and defended by three battalions of Engliſh, Auſtrians, and Dutch, was obliged, under pretext of a mutiny in the garriſon, to ſurrender on the fourth day of the ſiege. The Engliſh and Auſtrian part of the garriſon were made priſoners of war, but the Dutch were diſmiſſed, on condition of not ſerving againſt the French or their allies for eighteen months.

Oudenard taken by the French,

All this while the confederate army was lying in its ſtrong camp at Anderlight, behind the canal of Bruſſels. It was now plain that no operation of activity was to be expected on the part of the Dutch; and it was impoſſible for his royal highneſs with the Britiſh, the Hanoverians, and the few Auſtrians he had with him, to act offenſively againſt an army, like that of the French, not only greatly ſuperior in numbers, but daily encreaſed by reinforcements, and inſpirited by ſucceſs. The main body of the French army, after taking Oudenard had advanced to Aloſt, from whence they threatened Dendermond, which lay but a little to their left. The allies attempted to throw 800 men into the place, by ſending a detachment up the Scheld in boats; but being intercepted by a detachment of French, they were obliged to return with the loſs of 300, while the French extended their contributions to the very gates of Bruſſels and Louvain. They paſſed the Dender on the 27th, and upon their attempting to open the trenches before Dendermond, the governor ſurrendered upon the uſual conditions accepted by the Dutch, of the garriſon being obliged not to carry arms againſt France and her allies for eighteen months.

as is Dendermond,

Theſe conqueſts were alarming to Great Britain, and the queen of Hungary put the government there in mind of the danger of Oſtend, the loſs of which would be of dreadful conſequence to the common cauſe. The French had affected to give out, that the place was too ſtrong for them to attempt it this campaign; but after the taking of Ghent, they ſeized Damme and Plaſſendahl, and extending themſelves along the canal from Bruges, there was no longer any doubt that their

deſign

design was to beſiege Oſtend, and that 30,000 men, with a moſt formidable train of artillery, under Louendahl, were deſtined to that purpoſe. A battallion of foot guards, upon the requiſition of the Dutch and the queen of Hungary, with a vaſt quantity of military ſtores, were ſent from England to reinforce the garriſon, though the deſign of an invaſion by the eldeſt ſon of the pretender, was then publickly known, as appears by Mr. Trevor, the Britiſh miniſter's memorial, then preſented to their High Mightineſſes. Count Chanclos, who was eſteemed a good officer, was then governor of the place. The garriſon, for ſome time, flattered itſelf that it neither would nor could be beſieged, becauſe it was in their power to lay the country all round it under water. But ſo little care had been taken of the ſluices, that many of them could not be opened, and Louendahl, on the 1ſt of Auguſt, inveſted it with 30,000 men. The garriſon conſiſted in the whole of 4000 men, but was far from making that defence, which, from their ſtrength and that of the place, the public expected. Louendahl ply'd them with ſo much fury from his irreſiſtable artillery, that in a few days the governor ſurrendered the place upon condition that the garriſon ſhould march out with the higheſt military honours, and that they ſhould be eſcorted to the Auſtrian territories; but without particulariſing any place. As the Engliſh part of the garriſon were, in conſequence of this capitulation, preparing to embark themſelves to join the confederate army, the French general informed them, that the place of their deſtination not having been ſpecified in the articles of capitulation, in was optional to the conqueror, and they were accordingly conducted to Mons. Geo. II. 1745. and Oſtend,

The taking of Oſtend, notwithſtanding the power brought before it, filled the people of England with the moſt melancholy apprehenſions. Some public talk had been held about putting it into the hands of the Engliſh, and it was now openly ſaid, that it had been given up by the jealouſy of the Dutch, who had prevailed with the queen of Hungary to ſuffer it to fall into the hands of the French, rather than to put the Engliſh in poſſeſſion of a place of ſuch importance to trade. There was but too much foundation for this ſurmize, nor has the public ever yet been ſatisfied that it was not in the power of the governor to have made a better defence.

Newport was now the only place of conſequence that remained unſubdued by the French in the Auſtrian Flanders; and on the 16th of Auguſt it was inveſted by Louendahl. The garriſon was compoſed of four battalions, half Auſtrians, half and Newport.

Geo. II. 1745. half Dutch; but the reſiſtance the place made fell far ſhort of what might have been reaſonably expected; for on the 26th of the ſame month the garriſon ſurrendered priſoners of war. The ſiege of Aeth was next formed on the 18th of September; and to give the governor count Wurmbrand, who had 1600 men in the place, ſome colour for ſurrendering it ſoon, the place was attacked by ſhowers of red-hot bullets; a ſpecies of engineering which Saxe and Louendahl had now brought to high perfection. Thoſe bullets did damage to the place, but little or none to the garriſon, of which only fourteen were killed, and the governor ſurrendered on the 28th of September.

The allied army, all this time, lay encamped between Antwerp and Bruſſels, but without daring to oppoſe the French conqueſts, while the French monarch was triumphing in Paris with a pomp that fell little ſhort of adoration; though at the ſame time the beſt inſtructed and the more ſubſtantial part of his ſubjects were curſing his victories, which brought him no advantage, and repined at his ſucceſs, which was bought with the ruin of their properties.

French king returns to Paris.

It is now proper to review the ſtate of Europe at this juncture, which was ſo threatning to the liberties of Europe.

Affairs in Holland,

Notwithſtanding his Britannic majeſty, by Mr. Trevor his miniſter at the Hague, talked in a very high ſtrain to the Dutch, yet all he could obtain was to bring them to concur with him in keeping the elector of Saxony in the intereſts of her Hungarian majeſty, and to come to a reſolution to make an augmentation of 12,000 men in their army. This reſolution, which was carried by the Engliſh intereſt, and the dread the government of Holland was under of the ſtadtholder's party amongſt the people, gave vaſt umbrage to France; and the Abbeville, her reſident now at the Hague, told the ſtates in a ſmart memorial he preſented, that if the augmentation ſhould take place, his maſter would conſider it in the ſame light as a declaration of war. Though this language was confirmed by facts, yet the French party amongſt the States General prevailed ſo far, as to wait a little longer till they ſaw how the other powers of Europe would behave.

and of the court of Ruſſia,

Their High Mightineſſes, to give ſome colour for believing they were at laſt reſolved to act deciſively, ſent Mynheer de Dieu as their miniſter to the court of Ruſſia, which was now the great ſeat of political intrigue. The empreſs had been ſo much prepoſſeſſed by Chetardie, the French ambaſſador, that ſhe would liſten to no arguments in favour of Botta, and

inſiſted

inſiſted upon her Hungarian majeſty puniſhing him, while at the ſame time ſhe employed Beſtuchef, a profeſſed friend to the queen of Hungary, as her firſt miniſter. This gave the court of France great uneaſineſs, and Chetardie undertook to oblige her Imperial majeſty to abandon Beſtuchef, and if ſhe could not be induced to order her troops to take the field in favour of the Frankfort alliance, to prevail at leaſt upon her to be neutral. Lord Tyrawley was then his Britannic majeſty's miniſter at Peterſburgh, and was in great favour with her Imperial majeſty. It was owing to the court of Britain that the queen of Hungary at laſt fixed the court of Peterſburgh in her intereſt, by giving up Botta, and putting him under a kind of diſgrace. But Chetardie, who pretended to be perfectly well acquainted with the turn and diſpoſitions of the Ruſſian court, ſtill undertook to make his point good, and, with this view, though his whole dependance was upon his perſonal intereſt with the empreſs, he diſſuaded privately both his own and the Imperial court from ſolemnly recognizing her as ſovereign empreſs of all the Ruſſias, a title of which ſhe was extremely fond. Chetardie, at the ſame time, began to form a party in the ſenate of Ruſſia to declare for the Frankfort alliance. Beſtuchef obtained full proofs of both facts, and ſecretly diſcloſed them to his miſtreſs, to whom Chetardie had profeſſed the moſt ardent deſire that his and the emperor's courts would acknowledge her Imperial dignity. Some dangerous connections between Chetardie and ſeveral of the Ruſſian grandees appeared at the ſame time; and the empreſs being now fully ſenſible that he had cancelled all his former merits with her, ordered him privately to be arreſted, and without farther ceremony he was obliged to depart her dominions. where Chetardie the French miniſter is arreſted.

Geo. II. 1745.

Notwithſtanding this great point was effected, the court of Peterſburg's new connections with the king of Sweden, who as duke of Pomerania had acceded to the treaty of Frankfort, and the intereſt of the great prince her declared ſucceſſor, who had been very lately married to the young princeſs of Anhalt Zerbſt, would not ſuffer her to ſend to the queen of Hungary the troops ſhe had promiſed her. She declared, however, that if his Poliſh majeſty was attacked for the troops he had lent the queen of Hungary, ſhe would look upon the injury as done to herſelf; and ſhe ſignified to the Ruſſian miniſter, that ſhe had mitigated her reſentment with regard to Botta.

The diet of Groduo in Poland was then holding, and the allies of the Frankfort treaty were very aſſiduous to ſtir up ſuch Affairs in Poland,

Geo. II. 1745. ſuch a ſpirit in that diet, as ſhould oblige his Poliſh majeſty to accede to their alliance. It appears that they muſt have ſucceeded, the French having ſpent great ſums amongſt the dietines for that purpoſe, had not the intereſt of her Hungarian majeſty been ſtrongly ſupported by Mr. Villars, the Britiſh miniſter at Warſaw, who encouraged the Auſtrian party in the diet to ſtand by the queen of Hungary, and to declare againſt the Pruſſian invaſion of her dominions. Notwithſtanding this, and the interpoſition of her Ruſſian majeſty to the ſame purpoſe, the allies of Frankfort found means to put a tumultuous end to the diet, before they could come to any final reſolution in ſupport of the queen of Hungary. His Poliſh majeſty, however, ſtill continued, to all appearance, firm to his engagements with the houſe of Auſtria, though the intrigues of her enemies, and the conſtitution of Poland, did not permit him, as king, to be ſerviceable to her cauſe.

and in Sweden. Though the king of Sweden had declared that his acceſſion to the treaty of Frankfort was only in his capacity of duke of Pomerania, yet the great weight he had in the empire as landgrave of Heſſe, was of infinite ſervice to the emperor, and to the king of Pruſſia. The intereſt of the prince ſucceſſor of Sweden, lay towards the Frankfort allies, and this ſummer count Teſſin, having cemented the alliance between Sweden and Denmark, was ſent to Berlin, where he made a formal demand of the princeſs Louiſa Ulrica, ſiſter to his Pruſſian majeſty, to be married to the prince ſucceſſor of Sweden. This was accordingly granted, and the princeſs, on the 25th of July, ſet out for Stralſund, and ſoon after met with her royal conſort. Notwithſtanding this match, the ſenate of Sweden could not be brought to ratify his Pruſſian majeſty's invitation to their king for acceding to the Frankfort alliance in his regal capacity.

This did not prevent his Swediſh majeſty, as landgrave of Heſſe, from agreeing, that his brother, prince William, to whom he had aſſigned the management of his Germanic affairs, ſhould withdraw from the ſervice of Great Britain the 6000 Heſſian troops that were in her pay, and join them to the Imperial and Palatine troops in Bavaria. Mean while Maillebois was oppreſſing the neutral ſtates of the empire, whom his maſter, as guarantee of the treaty of Weſtphalia, would no longer indulge in their neutrality; and, in ſhort, the French proceeded not only againſt the queen of Hungary, but all the princes and ſtates who did not ſtand by the Frankfort treaty, as their avowed enemies, the elector of Cologn,

on

on account his being brother to the emperor, alone meeting with some favour. Geo. II. 1745.

Such was the general state of the internal affairs in Germany, at the time of the emperor Charles the VIIth's death. All the caresses of the French court could not keep the elector of Bavaria long in their interest. He had, for some time, been amused with being indemnified in the anterior Austria, which was now in the hands of France, for all the distresses his electorate had suffered, and the court of Spain had promised him remittances. But he saw the anterior Austria so thoroughly plundered by the French, that it was not worth his acceptance; and as to the Spanish subsidies, the court of Madrid had too much upon their hands in Italy, to spare him any considerable sum. Add to all those considerations, that a fresh army of Austrians, under Bathiani, had made an irruption into his territories, where they had gained some important advantages, especially by the battle of Pfaffenhoffen, where the French and the Palatines were entirely defeated; and the progress of the Austrians against his capital was so rapid, that on the 19th of April he was obliged to retire to Ausburg. The miseries of his country, the anguish of his mother and family, who threatened, that if he continued his connections with France, they would go to Vienna, and throw themselves at the feet of the queen of Hungary, but above all the weighty interposition of his Britannic majesty, at last opened the eyes of the young elector, and determined him for peace. The French and Prussian faction used all arts to divert him from discontinuing the war, but in vain. The councils of England prevailed, and the authority of his Britannic majesty, for once, influenced the court of Vienna with sentiments of moderation. The queen of Hungary agreed to acknowledge the validity of the Imperial dignity in the person of the late emperor, and that his son should be put in possession of all his territories in the same manner as his father held them before the year 1741, and to quit all claims upon the house of Bavaria. In like manner the elector renounced all claims upon the Austrian succession, and agreed to guaranty the pragmatic sanction. He likewise engaged to give his vote for the great duke at the approaching election of emperor, and to dismiss all the auxiliary troops that were in his service. This treaty, which contained several other less important articles, being thus concluded upon terms of wisdom and moderation, the elector returned to his capital, and the archbishop of Mentz, as archchancellor of the empire, appointed the 1st of June for the election of the emperor. The

Conduct of the young elector of Bavaria,

who makes a peace with the queen of Hungary.

Geo. II. 1745. French, whose army under Maillebois were [illegible] upon the Lower Rhine, continued their devastations without regard to the neutrality of the princes; and they ridiculously pretended, that their remaining in Germany, was only in order to secure the freedom of the election of an emperor. They filled all Europe with complaints against the ambition of the house of Austria, who, they said, wanted to render the Imperial dignity hereditary in itself; and they left neither prayers nor threats unattempted to oppose the election of the great duke of Tuscany. It is foreign to this history to describe the various intrigues formed for that purpose; but the king of England, as elector of Hanover, shewing the way, and the archbishop of Mentz continuing firm to his engagements with the house of Austria, the archduke was chosen by the suffrages of all the electors but those of the electors Palatine and Brandenburgh. It was the 2d of September before matters were ripe for the election, and then the new emperor and empress queen made a most magnificent entry into Frankfort on the 24th, after which they returned to Vienna; but the peace of the empire was as yet far from being re-established.

Tyranny of the French in Germany.

Great duke of Tuscany elected emperor.

Before the election of the emperor could be effected, the queen of Hungary was obliged to raise an army under the duke of Aremberg, to oblige Maillebois to remove from the neighbourhood of Frankfort. This army consisted of 24,000 Austrians, 8000 Hanoverians, who, to still the clamour of the nation, were taken out of the pay of Great Britain and put into that of the house of Austria, and 8000 more Hanoverians, furnished by his Britannic majesty. This army, at first, had some superiority over that of Maillebois, but the latter receiving some reinforcements, passed the Maine, and obliged the confederates, with some loss, to put themselves behind the Lahne. But marshal Traun, who commanded the Austrian troops in Bavaria, having reinforced Aremberg, who resigned his command to Bathiani, the prince of Conti, who had succeeded Maillebois in his command, was in his turn obliged to act upon the defensive, and to repass the Rhine, by which Germany was once more evacuated of her hereditary tyrants, and the freedom of the election at Frankfort was secured.

Progress of the war in Germany.

This agreeable alteration in the affairs of Europe, was effected principally by the wisdom and authority of his Britannic majesty, who kept invariably to the principle of reconciling all the princes of the empire to unite in defence of public liberty. He prevailed with the elector Palatine to be less

interested

intereſted [illegible] cauſe of France; he actually ſucceeded in bringing the court of Heſſe Caſſel back to its original ſyſtem, and to reſtore the 6000 Heſſians to Britiſh pay for four years, upon the ſame ſubſidy, as had been paid formerly, being renewed; and as that prince had only pleaded the ſupport of the Imperial dignity for the part he had lately acted, the death of the emperor ſet him at liberty to renew his former engagements with honour. Geo. II. 1745.

The king of Pruſſia, upon whom ſo much depended, would gladly have embraced the ſame ſalutary ſyſtem; but the madneſs of the court of Vienna did not permit him. His very bad ſucceſs in the preceding campaign, gave encouragement to the empreſs queen, to hope that ſhe could now ſtrip him of all he had acquired; and prince Charles was ſent from Vienna to Koningſgratz in Bohemia, to act againſt him at the head of 76,000 men. By this inveteracy of conduct, ſhe awakened all the military abilities of his Pruſſian majeſty, which ſoon ſurprized all Europe. He, at firſt, affected to act upon the defenſive only, which made his enemies imagine, that, diſcouraged by his late loſſes, he was equally unable and unwilling to hazard an engagement. But he had, with ſurprizing ſucceſs and vigour, recruited and diſciplined his army, and made ſo good a uſe of the preſumption of his enemies, that he, unexpectedly, on the 3d of June, attacked the combined armies of the Auſtrians and Saxons, under prince Charles of Lorrain, at Friedberg, upon the confines of Sileſia and Bohemia, and gave them a total defeat. Of the allies, 4,600 were killed, 5,300 were taken priſoners; they loſt all their artillery, and his Pruſſian majeſty carried off from the field ſo many colours, ſtandards, kettle-drums, and other military trophies, as amounted to a demonſtration of a compleat victory. King of Pruſſia defeats the Auſtrians and Saxons.

All Europe, which had hitherto looked upon prince Charles as the hero of the age, was aſtoniſhed at his Pruſſian majeſty gaining ſo deciſive a victory over him, merely by the ſuperiority of generalſhip. The Pruſſians, who had likewiſe ſuffered conſiderably in the battle, puſhed their advantages, and the ſeat of war between the two powers was once more tranſferred into Bohemia. His Pruſſian majeſty, however, upon this occaſion, ſhewed his political, to be at leaſt equal to his military, abilities. Next to Auſtria, there was no power in Europe from which he had ſo much to fear as from the court of Peterſburg. He well knew the ſituation and ſentiments of that court, which were lenient, and he offered to make it and the court of London mediators between him and the

Geo. II. 1745. houſe of Auſtria. The empreſs of Ruſſia would have been glad to have been a mediator, but could not bring the court of Vienna into any ſcheme of accommodation; and by this time, the king of Pruſſia having prevented, for that campaign at leaſt, any vigorous meaſures of the Ruſſians had to do with the Auſtrians and Saxons only; being always ſure of finding a ſincere mediator in the perſon of his uncle the king of Great Britain.

But it was neceſſary for his Pruſſian majeſty to ſupport the credit of his arms, wherever they were engaged. The Hungarian inſurgents, and the Uhlans, a body of barbarians, depending equally upon the grand ſignior and the queen of Hungary, had broken into Sileſia, where they had committed great ravages. He therefore diſpatched the prince of Anhault Deſſau with a ſtrong detachment, which afterwards was encreaſed to 40,000 men, to repreſs thoſe ravagers. This was performed with no great difficulty, and that prince had orders to take poſſeſſion of a camp in the neighbourhood of Magdeburg, to act according to events.

The convention of Hanover between him and the king of England.

The loſs of the battle of Friedberg by the Auſtrians, was by no means alarming to the court of Hanover, where his Britannic majeſty then was; and as his Pruſſian majeſty greatly valued himſelf upon his moderation, he very readily entered upon a proviſional treaty with his uncle for reſtoring the peace of Germany, if not of Europe. The court of Hanover never had approved of the implacable ſpirit of revenge that always had been ſhewn by that of Vienna; and his Britannic majeſty reſolved to proceed now upon a ſyſtem which ſhould manifeſt his diſlike of thoſe violent meaſures, that had ſo long broken the peace of Europe; and at the ſame time to keep the good faith of his former engagements. A convention was therefore readily entered into between him and his nephew.

By this convention, his Britannic majeſty engaged, that the king of Pruſſia ſhould retain poſſeſſion of Sileſia, in the ſame manner it was ceded to him by the treaty of Breſlau; and at the ſame time he promiſed not only to guaranty the ſame himſelf, but to do his utmoſt endeavours to get it guarantied by the States General, and to obtain a general guaranty of it by the empire and the other powers of Europe, whenever a general peace ſhould be concluded. The elector of Saxony was likewiſe to cede to the king of Pruſſia all his family, or other, claims upon Sileſia; and his Pruſſian majeſty was to agree to the election of the great duke of Tuſcany to the Imperial dignity; while a mutual guaranty of each others dominions

dominions, to be paſs between the queen of Hungary and his Pruſſian majeſty. The ſame convention then adjuſted certain territorial conſiderations, and agreed upon an exchange of priſoners. It likewiſe ſtipulated, that the king of Poland and the elector Palatine ſhould be included in the future peace, and that the Palatine family and the houſe of Heſſe ſhould be reſtored to all their paternal dominions. The king of Great Britain, in the mean time, was to ſend private couriers to Vienna, to diſpoſe that court to order prince Charles immediately to ſuſpend hoſtilities in Bohemia, Sileſia, and Saxony. Geo. II. 1745.

Though nothing could have been more wiſely concerted than this plan of peace, yet it by no means ſuited with the views of her Imperial majeſty; and not only ſhe, but the court of Dreſden, which ſecretly had the ſame views, refuſed to accept it. This ingratitude in a princeſs, who ought to have conſidered his Britannic majeſty in the light of a, more than, father, amazed all Europe. The king of Pruſſia attributed it to a ſecret management in conſequence of the treaty of Warſaw, and publiſhed, by way of manifeſto, a very ſtrong declaration of war againſt the elector of Saxony, charging the courts of Vienna and Dreſden with deſigns againſt his territories, and particularly againſt the dutchy of Madgeburgh. He likewiſe affirmed, that the king of England had promiſed to pay to Saxony a ſum of money ſufficient to enable that elector to maintain an army ſtrong enough in Poland to make that crown hereditary in his family. After this, in the ſame manifeſto, he charged the elector of Saxony with having attacked his dominions, and that his troops had exerciſed in them great barbarities, which gave him, the king of Pruſſia, a right to have attacked him in Saxony before, but that he had till now forborn, out of humanity. But he concluded, that though he had been highly provoked, he was ſtill willing to hearken to equitable terms of accommodation. The convention rejected by Auſtria and Saxony.

While this declaration was drawing up, his Pruſſian majeſty was making prodigious preparations for war; and no ſooner was the declaration publiſhed, than the prince of Anhault Deſſau, with a ſtrong detachment, penetrated into the very heart of the Saxon territories. The king of Pruſſia was then at the head of his army in Bohemia; he had ſtill ſome meaſures to obſerve with the Czarina; the duke of Sax-weiſſenfels marched againſt the Pruſſians in Saxony from Bohemia with 18,000 men, which were replaced to prince Charles by other troops; and upon the whole, his Pruſſian majeſty was enclined to tranſfer the ſeat of war from Bohemia into King of Pruſſia enters Saxony.

Geo. II. 1745. Saxony, where prince Leopold's army and h[illegible] one another; his own in Bohemia, after the detachments he had ſent to prince Leopold, being far inferior to the Auſtrians under prince Charles. While he was meditating how to effect this, he truſted to the ſtrength of his camp at Slandentz, againſt the ſuperiority of the Auſtrians; but on the 18th of September prince Charles, at the head of 60,000 men, attacked his camp. The deſign was both boldly and wiſely laid, but the king was not ſurprized; and though his ſtrength was ſcarcely half that of the Auſtrians, he once more compleatly defeated them, but with great loſs to himſelf. He then marched into Sileſia, and the better to maſque his great deſign, he filled all Europe with complaints againſt the conduct of the houſes of Auſtria and Saxony; he called upon the States General, who had acceded to the late convention of Hanover, to perform their engagements to him, and he required his Britannic majeſty to engage the empreſs of Ruſſia not only to abandon the court of Dreſden, but to favour his arms.

Defeats the Saxons and Auſtrians,

Before he had time to ſee the full effect of all thoſe and many other applications, he marched, to the amazement of all Europe, at the head of his army into Saxony, where after cutting in pieces ſome Saxon regiments, he took poſſeſſion of Gorlitz, cut off the junction between prince Charles and the duke of Sax-weiſenfells, and opened a way for his own, with prince Leopold of Anhault Deſſau. He then made himſelf maſter of Leipſic, putting the country all the way he marched under contributions, and then advanced towards Dreſden. The duke of Sax-weiſenfells was then at the ſtrong paſs of Pirna, with an army of 50,000 men, but he was defeated with great ſlaughter by prince Leopold, while the king offered battle to prince Charles, who was in the ſame neighbourhood, but declined an engagement. On the 6th of December he effected his junction with prince Leopold, and he entered Dreſden without oppoſition. The king of Poland had, by this time, retired to Prague, but had left his family at Dreſden; and his Pruſſian majeſty, upon this occaſion, diſcovered, that he was as great a hero as he was a general. He approached the royal family with reſpect, and even affection; his manners concealed his being a conqueror, and the diſtreſs of the royal captives ſeemed to efface out of his mind every ſentiment of ambition. Thoſe appearances might have been equivocal and deceitful, but the moſt important parts of his conduct proved them to be ſincere. For though he continued to exact heavy contributions, he declared that he did

and takes Dreſden,

His magnanimity toward the Saxon royal family.

did ſo only to induce his Poliſh majeſty the ſooner to think of a peace. At the ſame time, however, he declared his firm reſolution not to recede, in the ſmalleſt tittle, from what had been ſtipulated by the convention of Hanover. Geo. II. 1745.

The king of Poland, on the other hand, was ſtill in hopes that the Czarina might be prevailed upon to march an army to his relief, and was ſo much connected with the intractable court of Vienna, that notwithſtanding the ſufferings of his country, and the generoſity of the conqueror towards his family, he could not be prevailed upon to make the neceſſary conceſſions. Mr. Villiers, the Britiſh ambaſſador, at laſt prevailed with him to appoint two of his miniſters to confer with count Podewits, cabinet miniſter to the king of Pruſſia. The conference proved at firſt ineffectual, but his Pruſſian majeſty talked with ſo much firmneſs and determination to Mr. Villiers, and drew the chains in which he held Saxony, ſo cloſe, that his Poliſh majeſty was at laſt obliged to yield all that was demanded, and his Britannic majeſty prevailed upon the empreſs queen to follow his example. Two treaties, under the mediation of England, were accordingly concluded; one between the king of Pruſſia and the elector of Saxony, and one between the king of Pruſſia and the empreſs queen. Negotiations for peace, which is at laſt effected, by two treaties.

The latter had the treaty of Breſlau and the convention of Hanover for its baſis, the king of Pruſſia being ſo moderate, as to require no new ceſſion. He acknowledged the validity of the emperor's election, and of the vote for Bohemia; and the elector Palatine, who was compriſed in the treaty, did the ſame. On the other hand, "his imperial majeſty confirmed, in favour of the king of Pruſſia, certain privileges, de non evocando, conceded to his Pruſſian majeſty by the late emperor Charles VIIth, regarding certain provinces and eſtates in the poſſeſſion of the king of Pruſſia, not appertaining to the electorate of Brandenburg."

In the treaty between Pruſſia and Saxony, it was ſtipulated, 1ſt, "That all the contributions that the electorate was to furniſh to his Pruſſian majeſty, to the 22d of December, inclusive, ſhould be retained to his proper uſe, and that a million of German crowns ſhould be paid at the next fair at Leipſic, with intereſt, at 5 per cent. to be counted from the day of ſigning, to the time of his quitting the capital." 2d, "That the ſubjects of his Pruſſian majeſty, who are intereſted in the bank of Saxony, ſhall be exactly paid." 3d, "That the king of Poland, as elector of Saxony, ſhall not innovate any thing to the prejudice of the proteſtant religion in that electorate." 4th, "It is alſo ſtipulated, that Their conditions.

Geo. II. 1745. the ſoldiers, which have inliſted ſince the Pruſſians entered the electorate, ſhall remain in that ſervice."

The concluſion of this peace, which was followed by many high acts of generoſity done by the king of Pruſſia to the houſe of Saxony, was greatly forwarded by the ſtate of affairs in Italy, which makes it now neceſſary to attend the operations there.

Progreſs of the war in Italy.

Lobkowitz, while at the head of the Auſtrian army there, had ſhewn himſelf very unequal to his command. In his retreat from Velitri, he was purſued by count Gages, and his whole army probably muſt have been deſtroyed, had not the count received a poſitive order from Spain to poſtpone every other conſideration, and uſe his utmoſt diligence to join the infant don Philip, who intended, without loſs of time, to march into the territories of Genoa. Gages knew the genius of his court too well, not to pay an immediate and blind obedience to this order; and notwithſtanding the amazing difficulties of the march, he marched acroſs the Appennine mountains, and along the Eaſtern Reviera of Genoa, till he reached Spezzia, and the Genoeſe territories.

Bonamici.

King of Sardinia offers to renounce Final.

His Sardinian majeſty having repaired, as well as he could, the fortreſſes of Demont and Coni, ſettled the operations of the campaign, while the Spaniſh army took poſſeſſion of Nice and Oneglia. He now began ſenſibly to feel the effects of the treaty of Worms, and he ſaw the terrible conſequences, ſhould the Genoeſe declare openly in favour of the houſe of Bourbon. He therefore ſent general Pallavicini, who was a man of addreſs and abilities, to the republic of Genoa, with an offer to renounce all his pretenſions upon Final, provided they would take part with himſelf and Auſtria. Admiral Rowley was then upon their coaſts; their fortifications were not yet proof againſt a bombardment, nor were the levies, they intended to make, yet ready. But in their councils they were determined to join with the houſe of Bourbon; for this purpoſe they had diſpatched Jerom Grimaldi to the court of Spain, and he concluded the treaty of Aranjuez, between Genoa, France, and Spain, the ſame being made as a counterpoiſe to the treaty of Worms.

Treaty of Aranjuez.

The conditions of the treaty of Aranjuez were, "That the republic of Genoa ſhall aſſiſt the armies and fleets belonging to the princes of the houſe of Bourbon, with all manner of neceſſaries, both by ſea and land: that the Genoeſe ſhall join their army in Italy with 10,000 men, all well armed and accoutred, and followed by a train of thirty ſix cannon; but this they ſhall not be obliged to do till after the French and Spaniſh armies are united, and have paſſed the mountains

Bonamici.

and

and narrow paſſes, lying between their republic and the Mi- Geo. II.
laneſe, and called the ſtraits of Lombardy: that the princes 1745.
of the houſe of Bourbon ſhall guarantee the towns, territories, and all the preſent poſſeſſions of the Genoeſe: that all the allies, with united forces, ſhall endeavour to obtain a ſettlement in Italy for don Philip, the king of Spain's third ſon: that the king of Spain ſhall pay the Genoeſe a ſubſidy of 12,000 l. monthly, ſo long as the war continues in Italy: that the allies ſhall likewiſe guarantee to the Genoeſe, the towns of Lavinco, Cenopha, Monte-gratio, and Pares, with their ſeveral territories, to be poſſeſſed by them, with all that right formerly acquired from Philip viſcount of Milan; alſo the town, caſtle, and territory of Serravalle, by the right obtained of count Leonard Doria, not many years ſince; that the princes of the houſe of Bourbon ſhall ſhew the ſame good-will to the Genoeſe, as to their own natural ſubjects, and take care that they ſhall not be impoſed upon, by making them pay exceſſive cuſtom, either by ſea or land; alſo, that they receive no injurious treatment, either from Spaniſh, French, or Neapolitan ſhip-maſters and merchants."

This treaty proved fatal to the intereſts of the houſe of Auſtria in Italy. The particular motions of the Sardinian, French, Spaniſh and Neapolitan arms, are immaterial to this hiſtory. It is ſufficient to obſerve, that after ſurmounting amazing difficulties, the army commanded by don Philip, and that commanded by count Gages, effected their junction on the 14th day of June, near Genoa, and in the whole amounted to 68,000 men, and they received an addition of 10,000 Genoeſe. This exaſperated his Sardinian majeſty; and the more, as immediately after the junction, the republic publiſhed a declaration of war againſt the king of Sardinia, but with expreſſions of the moſt profound reſpect for his Britannic majeſty and the queen of Hungary. This was anſwered by a counter declaration from his Sardinian majeſty, accuſing the Genoeſe of having long favoured his enemies, and threatening their republic in very high terms. The queen of Hungary, at the ſame time, ſent orders to her generals to treat the Genoeſe as enemies, and went ſo far as even to threaten the extinction of their commonwealth. Both powers joined in the moſt earneſt applications to his Britannic majeſty, to give orders for the commanders of his ſhips in the Mediterranean, to proceed hoſtilely againſt Genoa; and as ſhe had now broken that neutrality, which was the price of his majeſty's forbearance, ſuch orders were accordingly ſent.

Genoa declares war againſt the king of Sardinia.

Rear

Geo. II. 1745.

Rear admiral Medley had been sent, with [illegible] men of war, to join vice admiral Rowley, which he did, on the 10th of April, and then the British fleet, which consisted of [illegible] ships of the line, proceeded to block up the Spanish fleet in Carthagena, which was intended to join that of Brest. The Spanish fleet consisted of the Royal Philip, the largest ship then, perhaps, in the world, and the [illegible], five ships of 64 guns, two of 60, five of 54, and one of 5[illegible], all of them well manned, and in excellent order. Had they been able to have effected the junction with the Brest fleet, they would have been masters of the Mediterranean, but the truth is, the court of Versailles by this time began secretly to have views very different from that of Madrid; and though fair appearances were kept up as formerly, yet the Brest fleet had no orders to join that of Spain. They kept cruising between Lisbon and Gibraltar, where the Blandford man of war had the misfortune to fall into their hands, but admiral Rowley having sent commodore Osborn with 12 sail of the line, to observe their motions, they returned towards the coast of France, without attempting any thing against Osborn.

[illegible] to Genoa and its territories bombarded by the British fleet,

Admiral Rowley, upon receipt of his master's orders to act hostilely against Genoa, sent commodore Cowper with a squadron to bombard that city and its maritime possessions. He accordingly first made an attempt at Savona, to which he did some, but not a great deal of damage. He then proceeded to Genoa. But the Genose by this time, aided by Spanish money, and highly resenting the treaty of Worms, had been able to fortify their city towards the sea so strongly, that the British bombs could not reach it so effectually, as to do it any considerable, damage. Some, however, was done, though both the queen of Hungary and the king of Sardinia seemed to think that a great deal more might have been done, had not the government of Great Britain looked upon Genoa, with regard to them, as an inoffending state. Be this as it will, Final, that great bone of contention, was next bombarded, and St. Remo was almost laid in ashes, though capable to have made a great resistance, and the tameness of the inhabitants was afterwards resented by the Genoese, who claimed to be their sovereigns. Cowper next proceeded to Corsica, where numbers of the inhabitants still held out against the Genoese government, under the marquis Rivola, who was openly patronized by the king of Sardinia. The marquis Mari, who commanded for the Genoese in Bastia, had a garrison of 600 men in that town.

[illegible]

but

but the fire of the British ships against it was so dreadful, that the was obliged to abandon it, and retire to Calvi, by which, almost the whole island was lost to the Genoese. Geo. II. 1745.

In the mean while, the Piedmontese and Austrians, the former under the king of Sardinia, and the latter under count Schulenberg, did not amount to above 45,000 men, while that under don Philip amounted to 78,000. All that the king of Sardinia could do, was to make the proper dispositions for defending the Milanese, the Parmasan, and the Plaisantine. But don Philip, and Maillebois who commanded the French under him, with 40,000 French and Spaniards, undertook to penetrate into the Milanese, which was defended by the king of Sardinia, who was posted with 20,000 men in the neighbourhood of Alexandria, while count Gages was to act against Schulenberg, who was to defend the Parmasan and the Modenese with 25,000 men. The armies of the three crowns carried every thing before them. Count Schulenberg was obliged to retire under the cannon of Cortona, that he might preserve a communication with his Sardinian majesty. Great successes of the Bourbonites in Italy.

Don Philip routed all the troops that opposed his passage into the Modenese, took Acqui, Seva, and after opening a passage to Alexandria, obliged his Sardinian majesty and Schulenberg to retire beyond the Tanaro. On the 24th of July Gages invested, and soon after took, Tortona. The duke of Modena made himself master of Parma and Placentia. The city of Pavia was taken by scalade, and the city of Milan itself submitted to Gages, but the garrison, consisting of 2,500 men, retired into the citadel. After that, don Philip and Gages having rejoined their troops, forced their passage over the Tanaro, and dislodged the Piedmontese, who suffered greatly in the attack, from all their posts. By the 30th of September, don Philip was master of Alexandria, though the citadel held out, and he obliged the Austrian and Piedmontese armies to retire beyond the Po, while the armies of the three crowns took Valenza, Casal, Asti, Gabrano, and Veime, which lies but 20 miles north-east from Turin. They next took Trin, and the king of Sardinia was so apprehensive of Turin, his capital, being bombarded, that he withdrew his army within its cannon, and ordered the pavements of the city to be taken up.

Had the opinion of Gages been taken, in all probability Turin must have fallen into don Philip's hands. But this was far from being the intention of the French court. They did not chuse to ruin the king of Sardinia, but, if possible, to Bonamici. Policy of the French ministry.

Geo. II. 1745.

to make him their friend. D'Argenson, who at this time, had a great ſway in the French councils, hated the Auſtrians, and made his maſter in private ſentences, how important it would be for France to ſuffer them to be diſtreſſed in Italy.

Ibid. He had even prevailed with him to oblige the court of Madrid to ſend orders to don Philip, that all the operations of the war, about which any diſpute might happen, ſhould be under the direction of Maillebois, and therefore in all their councils, Gages was over-ruled. Add to this, that there ſubſiſted between his Sardinian majeſty and Maillebois a perſonal regard for each other, on account of former connections, and the French had already, in a great meaſure, obtained their ends, by obliging the empreſs queen to weaken herſelf in Germany and the Low Countries, for the defence of her territories in Italy. Such were the true reaſons that ſaved the king of Sardinia at this juncture from ruin. Don Philip, who was no better than the pupil of Maillebois, was forced to ſubmit. The ſiege of Turin was not undertaken, and on the 20th of December, don Philip made a moſt magnificent entry into Milan, attended by the duke of Modena, Gages, and other generals.

Having thus taken a ſurvey of the ſtate of Europe, ſo far as England was concerned, during this important year, it is now proper to return to the immediate intereſts of England, which, without any interruption, ſhall be carried down to the concluſion of the rebellion in 1746.

Motives for the Engliſh attacking Louiſburg.

There was not, ſince the commencement of hoſtilities between France and England, a meaſure, in which the Engliſh, of all denominations, were ſo unanimous, as the reduction of Louiſburg, the French capital of Cape Breton, and the bulwark of their empire in America, and which, by its ſituation, commands the navigation to Canada by the river St. Laurence. Incredible were the advantages the French trade, marine, and colonies reaped, and the loſſes, which the Engliſh ſuſtained, by this Dunkirk of America being in the poſſeſſion of France. It was the great nurſery of their ſeamen, by means of the fiſhery, which it protected, and which brought yearly immenſe ſums into the mother country. It was evident to a demonſtration, that if the Engliſh ſhould take Louiſburg, they muſt become the ſole proprietors of all the fiſhing of North America, which muſt be of an immenſe value. That the ſhipping of England, and the employment of her poor, muſt be increaſed, that her enemies muſt be deprived of the aſſiſtance of the neighbouring Indians, by means of which they carried on a great trade

rade in furs and other profitable commodities. That the taking of Louiſburg was the moſt probable means of diſturbing the communication between Old France and Canada, and that in the end it muſt facilitate, if not occaſion, the taking Quebec itſelf, the capital of the French empire in America; an empire, more extenſive than that of Old Rome. Beſides all thoſe, and many other, intereſting conſiderations, it was plain that Louiſburg was a ſure aſylum for the French ſhips of war and privateers, and, by its ſituation, it could ſoon ſend out any number of ſhips, and it was a ſpeedy retreat with their prizes, for avoiding danger, if they were overpowered. Geo. II. 1745.

Though the people of England had for many years been entirely convinced of the expediency of conquering Louiſburg, yet the merit of ſuggeſting the utility, as well as practicability of the conqueſt, was generally given to one Mr. Auchmuty, who was a native of Ireland, but had long reſided in America, as judge-advocate of the court of admiralty in New England. His ſcheme, at firſt, was laid before Mr. Shirley, governor of the Maſſachuſet colony, who laid it before the general court of the province at Boſton. The difficulties attending the attempt were evidently too great to be ſurmounted by the province of New England alone, but when the affair came to be reconſidered, a vaſt ſpirit of enterprize diſcovered itſelf amongſt the inhabitants, and the propoſal was laid before the government of England, who immediately took the affair into conſideration, and finding that Louiſburg was at that time very ill-provided for defence, ordered commodore Warren, who was then ſtationed at Antigua, to repair to Canſo, where the rendezvous of the land-forces, to be raiſed in New England, was appointed to be.

The people of New England at this time behaved with great ſpirit, in which they were encouraged by the ſecrecy of the Britiſh government; and 3,850 volunteers, all of them well affected to the expedition, aſſembled themſelves at Boſton, where the general aſſembly granted 27,000 l. ſterling, to be raiſed in the way of lottery, for the uſe of the expedition. The forces embarked on board of 85 tranſports, 8 privateers, of 20 guns each, and other ſmaller veſſels, and arrived ſafe at Canſo on the 2d of April, where they were, April 25th, joined by commodore Warren, with the Superb, of 60 guns, the Launceſton and Eltham of 40 guns each; and ſoon after, by as many more ſhips, as in the whole made up a ſquadron of ten ſhips of war. By this time, the whole body of land-forces, including marines, now amounted to about 6900, and Mr. Pepperel, a gentlemen of character and intereſt,

The expedition reſolved upon.

Geo. II. 1745. tereſt, in Piſcataqua, whoſe courage [illegible] of military diſcipline, was unanimou[illegible] all the irregulars.

Upon the 30th of April, the Engliſh [illegible] teers, and tranſports, arrived in Gabarus [illegible] within about four miles of Louiſbourg, [illegible] ing ſome reſiſtance, which was made [illegible] forces landed with very inconſiderable [illegible] troops, that oppoſed them, into the [illegible] place was deprived of their farther [illegible]

The ſiege of the place formed.

between the place of landing and the [illegible] was extremely boggy, unequal, and almoſt impaſſable; but nothing could diſcourage the aſſailants, who formed two ſeparate camps, which were to direct two attacks. The one played from the ſouth ſide of the harbour, directly upon the town, and the other from the north part of it, to ſilence what was termed the grand battery, which mounted 35 guns, of 42 pounds each, which commanded the entry and the bay. Beſides theſe, the enemy had a draw-bridge at the weſtern gate of the town, where was a circular battery of 16 guns, 24 pounders each, commanding the upper part of the harbour, at the mouth of which was the iſland battery, of 34 guns, 42 pounders; the walls, ramparts, and baſtions of the place, mounted 64 guns, and it was, beſides, defended by 10 mortars, each of 13 inches bore, and 6 of 9 inches, and the garriſon conſiſted of 1,200 regulars, under monſieur Chambon.

Progreſs of the ſiege.

Such a formidable diſplay of artillery, in defence of a place exceſſively ſtrong, both by art and nature, would have, perhaps, diſmayed any body of militia in the world, but New England men. But though neither they nor their commanders had ever ſeen any military ſervice, they proceeded with all the regularity and intrepidity of veterans. They ſet on fire the ſtore-houſes belonging to the fort on the 1ſt of May, upon which, the garriſon abandoned it, and retired into the city, by which the beſiegers became maſters of what was called the grand battery, where they found means to make ſeveral of the guns ſerviceable againſt the enemy. All this paſſed upon the northern ſide of the harbour; but the grand approaches to the body of the place were to be carried on upon the ſouthern ſide. Here the ſervice was extremely laborious, the guns for mounting the batteries being dragged through bogs and incumbered places by the landmen, for above two miles. They ſucceeded, however, to admiration, and by the aſſiſtance of the officers and engineers of the ma-

mines, and some lent them by the commodore, they mounted Geo. II.
a large train of artillery on an eminence, called the Green 1745.
Hill, about three quarters of a mile from the place. By the
12th of May, a faſcine battery of 28 guns was opened, and
played upon the circular battery, within 200 yards of the walls.
Upon this battery were mounted ſeveral 42 pounders, all of
them dragged through the bogs and marſhes above-mention-
ed, by the daily labour of the beſiegers. As the principal
effect againſt the place on the land ſide was expected from
this faſcine battery, the men exerted themſelves in propor-
tion, and did vaſt damage to the fortifications of the place.
But all their efforts would have little availed, had not the vi-
gilance of commodore Warren prevented ſupplies of any
kind from being carried into the town, and, at the ſame time,
plentifully ſupplied the Engliſh forces with all manner of
proviſions from Boſton, ſeven tranſports laden with them ar-
riving in Gabaron bay on the 17th of May. The Canter-
bury and Sunderland, both of them 60 gun ſhips, and the
Cheſter of 50 guns, had by this time joined the commodore,
who had the good fortune to intercept two French ſhips and
a ſnow attempting to get into the harbour; and ſoon after,
on the 21ſt of May, he took the Vigilante, a new French
man of war of 64 guns and 500 men, carrying all manner of
military and other ſtores for the defence of the place; and
that ſame day he took a large brigantine ſent from France
with brandy and other proviſions for the uſe of the garriſon.
Had thoſe ſupplies reached the place, in all probability it
could not have been taken, at leaſt not without much greater
bloodſhed. Even under all the diſadvantages the garriſon
were, they made a reſolute reſiſtance from what was called
their Iſland battery, which guarded the mouth of the harbour,
and annoyed the Engliſh, who attacked the grand battery.
A reſolution was taken, to attack this Iſland battery, and
500 land-forces and marines went on board boats for that
purpoſe; but by reaſon of a great fog, the deſign miſcarried.
A few days after the attempt was renewed, but with ſtill
worſe ſucceſs, 36 of the moſt daring adventurers being killed,
and 118 taken priſoners. At laſt, by the advice of commo-
dore Warren, a battery was erected, mounted with their
heavieſt metal, upon a cliff which commanded the Iſland bat-
tery, and at the ſame time the mouth of the harbour; and
600 barrels of powder, of which they were in great ſcarcity,
opportunely arriving from Boſton, together with other ſup-
plies, they played their new battery with great effect. Their
courage was redoubled when they had intelligence that 1000
freſh

Geo. II. 1745.

freſh recruits were ready to come to their aſſiſtance from New England, that the French fleet deſigned for the relief of the place had not ſailed from Breſt, and that the beſiegers had but very little powder left.

Surrender of the town,

The attention of the French government for the relief of this important poſſeſſion, is both remarkable and commendable. Notwithſtanding all the vigilance of the Britiſh commanders, one ſhip had got into the harbour with ſupplies; and though four other ſhips had been intercepted, another of 300 ton, laden with proviſions and ſtores of all kinds, was now taken, while the Britiſh ſquadron, on the 11th of June, by an equal attention on the part of their government, was reinforced by the Princeſs Mary of 60 guns, and the Hector and Lark of 40 guns each. By this reinforcement, the ſquadron conſiſted, excluſive of the French man of war, the privateers and other veſſels of force, of four 60 gun ſhips, one of 50, and five of 40 guns. Another battery was erected with amazing expedition, which played upon and beat down the draw-bridge already mentioned, and every day ſeemed to give freſh ſpirit to the beſiegers. At laſt it was reſolved to make a general aſſault upon the place, which the French governor underſtanding, and his garriſon being in want of all proviſions but ſome ſalt fiſh, on which they had ſubſiſted for ſome time, on the 15th of June he ſent a flag of truce to the Britiſh commander, who immediately ordered the firing to ceaſe, after a ſiege of 49 days, and the following terms of capitulation were propoſed by commodore Warren and Mr. Pepperel, and agreed to by Mr. Chambon, the governor.

and the capitulation.

London Gazette.

I. "That if your own veſſels ſhall be found inſufficient for the tranſportation of your perſons and effects to France, we will provide ſuch a farther number of veſſels as may be ſufficient for that purpoſe: alſo any proviſions neceſſary for the voyage, that you cannot furniſh yourſelves with."

II. "That all commiſſioned officers belonging to the garriſon, and the inhabitants of the town, may remain in their houſes with their families, and enjoy the free exerciſe of their religion; and no perſon ſhall be ſuffered to miſuſe or moleſt any of them, till ſuch time as they can conveniently be tranſported to France."

III. "That the non-commiſſioned officers and ſoldiers ſhall immediately, upon the ſurrender of the town and fortreſs, be put on board ſome of his Britannic majeſty's ſhips till they can alſo be tranſported to France."

IV. "That all your ſick and wounded ſhall be taken tender care of, in the ſame manner with our own."

V. "That

V. "That the commander in chief now in the garriſon, ſhall have liberty to ſend off two covered waggons, to be inſpected only by one officer of ours, that no warlike ſtores may be contained therein." Geo. II. 1745.

VI. "That if there be any perſons in the town or garriſon which you deſire may not be ſeen by us, they ſhall be permitted to go off maſked."

The above we do conſent to and promiſe on your compliance with the following terms, viz.

I. "That the ſurrender and due performance of every part of the aforeſaid premiſes be made and completed as ſoon as poſſible.

II. "That as a ſecurity for the punctual performance of the ſame, the Iſland battery, or one of the batteries of the town, ſhall be delivered, with all the artillery and warlike ſtores thereunto belonging, into the poſſeſſion of his Britannic majeſty's troops, before ſix of the clock this afternoon."

III. "That his Britannic majeſty's ſhips of war now lying before the port, ſhall be at liberty to enter the harbour of Louiſburg, without any moleſtation, as ſoon after ſix of the clock this afternoon, as the commander in chief of the ſaid ſhips ſhall think fit."

IV. "That none of the officers, ſoldiers, nor inhabitants in Louiſburg, who are ſubjects of the French king, ſhall take up arms againſt his Britannic majeſty, or any of his allies, until after the expiration of the full term of twelve months from this time."

V. "That all ſubjects of his Britannic majeſty, who are now priſoners with you, ſhall be immediately delivered up to us."

"P. Warren, W. Pepperell."

"It having been deſired by the governor of Louiſburg, that his troops might march out of the garriſon with their arms and colours, and then to be delivered into the cuſtody of commodore Warren and Mr. Pepperell till the ſaid troops arrival in France, and to be then returned to them, the ſame was conſented to."

In conſequence of the above capitulation, which was punctually performed, the Britiſh forces took poſſeſſion of the town and harbour, and the whole iſland of Cape Breton ſubmitted to his majeſty. The loſs of the beſiegers was but inconſiderable, not being in the whole above 100 men, but that of the beſieged amounted to about 240 killed. Some perſons at home thought the capitulation was too favourable for the French, without conſidering that any delay might

Geo. II. 1745. have ruined all that the Engliſh had been doing, either by the arrival of a ſuperior ſquadron from France, or of a body of French and Indians, who were actually in motion for the relief of the town at the time the capitulation was ſigned.

CHAP. VI.

The young pretender lands in Scotland—Character of Cameron of Lochel, who joins him, as does ſeveral of the clans—Account and character of the duke of Perth—and of the young pretender—Progreſs of the rebellion—Account of Kelly—the marquis of Tullibardine—his brother lord George Murray—March of ſir John Cope againſt the rebels, whom he dares not attack—He marches to Inverneſs, and the rebels to the Lowlands—State of religion and parties in Scotland—Edinburgh falls into the hands of the rebels, who are joined by ſeveral more noblemen and gentlemen—Manifeſtos of the pretender—Cope returns ſouthward, and loſes the battle of Preſton Pans—Siege of Edinburgh caſtle—Rebels march ſouthward—The parliament meets.

Introduction to the hiſtory of the rebellion.

THE reader is now to be entertained with the hiſtory of a rebellion the moſt unprovoked, the moſt daring, and, conſidering its progreſs, the moſt unſupported of any that appears in the Engliſh annals. A rebellion that was as fatal in its event as it was proſperous in its commencement, and which, notwithſtanding the temporal calamities it brought, confirmed in the hand of the ſovereign the ſcepter which it meant to ſhake.

State of Scotland.

Ever ſince the rebellion in the year 1715, the lenity of the government had been remarkable to many of the Scots who were moſt deeply engaged in it. The articles of the union, which exempted them from the heavy taxes the Engliſh bear, were moſt punctually obſerved. They had leiſure and opportunities to improve their eſtates, and even the attainted noblemen were liberally provided for by their relations, who generally had the preference in purchaſing their confiſcated eſtates at a vaſt under-rate. The commiſſioners of enquiry, who were ſent down from England to adjudge the claims upon the forfeitures, were ſo far from being rigid, that they admitted almoſt every claim that was ſet up in favour

vour of the wives and families of the attainted perſons, and many of the papers upon which thoſe claims were founded, were antedated to give them a validity. Few of the attainted noblemen therefore, excepting the earl of Wintoun, who though one of the nobleſt and moſt opulent in the party, had no family, and ſcarce any relation, were unprovided for; and, in fact, the government were rather loſers than gainers, upon the whole of the forfeitures. Geo. II. 1745.

From this general ſtate, the reader cannot imagine that the ſpirit of jacobitiſm was either greatly daunted or greatly diminiſhed in Scotland by the ſuppreſſion of the rebellion of 1715. The government of England, however, had always an eye to the Highlands of Scotland, and the plauſible ſchemes given in by general Wade for civilizing and over-awing them, occaſioned his having that province allotted to him. The turn of his manners, and his great ignorance of the country, and indeed of all the branches of civil policy, rendered him extremely unfit for that purpoſe. All he could do was to keep in good humour thoſe chiftians and gentlemen whom he ſerved by providing in the army or otherwiſe for themſelves or their families; but the ſtiffneſs and aukwardneſs of his compoſure diſguſted all others, and a ſcheme of rebellion was in the year 1735 carried to Rome by old Gordon of Glenbucket, and enforced by ſome other applications to the pretender, who, with the advice of his friends, diſapproved of it. The government of England had ſome ſlight intimations of this correſpondence, and Wade, who was then in high credit at court, diſcouraged all ſurmiſes of that kind, as reflecting upon himſelf, and no notice was taken of any of the conſpirators. But, as has been already ſhewn, the violence of the oppoſition in England concerning the Hanover mercenaries, and the unbridled licentiouſneſs with which all the meaſures of the government were treated, revived the hopes of the party. Intrigues in favour of the pretender. See vol. xv. p. 595, 596.

The reader has already ſeen by what means the invaſion projected in 1744 miſcarried. The unanimity that appeared in parliament in ſupport of his majeſty upon that occaſion, was a diſcouraging circumſtance, and the old pretender ordered his ſon Charles to lay aſide all thoughts of farther enterprize. Charles, warmed with the diſcourſes of ſome needy deſperate Scotch and Iriſh about his perſon, was by no means of that opinion, and returned to Rome in order to perſuade his father to perſeverance. The reader has already ſeen the favourable incidents and events that happened in Europe for the court of France in the courſe of this year. Their reſentment

Geo. II. 1715. ſentment againſt the queen of Hungary was light when compared to what they entertained against the Emperor and Tencin, who had a great ascendency over the French king, got him intirely over to the opinion, that the Proteſtant elector of Germany was [illegible] the French never could be the [illegible] had before his eyes daily proofs of the [illegible] he had been educated with a great indifference, if not contempt, for the Stuart family, yet he thought it might be for his intereſt to give them ſome countenance on this occaſion. Tencin had almoſt as much difficulty, after the miſcarriage of the late expedition, to bring over the old pretender, as he had with the French king; but he, at laſt, ſucceeded, though he never was able to gain Amelot or Argenſon entirely to his opinion. He prevailed, however, ſo far that the Elizabeth, a 64 gun ſhip, was appointed to convoy Charles to Scotland, if he ſhould make the attempt.

France undertakes a revolution in Britain.

Difficulties attending the ſame.

But the chief difficulty ſtill remained. The moſt ſenſible friends of the Stuart race in Scotland were averſe to any attempt at that time, on account chiefly of a deſertion of ſome whom they depended on as the main ſupports of their cauſe. The chiefs of thoſe clans who had, in the year 1715, been the ſtrength of their party, were now in the intereſts of the government, and two of their heads, Mackenzie (eldeſt ſon to the attainted earl of Seaforth) and Maccloed, were members of the houſe of commons. The head of the Macdonalds, the moſt numerous of the clans in the Stewart intereſt, had declared againſt it; the family of Gordon, whoſe followers made a great figure in the year 1715, was now proteſtant, and under great obligations to the government, and they both hated and diſtruſted lord Lovat, the head of the Fraſers. Upon a ſurvey, therefore, of their real ſtrength, the friends of the pretender thought that it was impoſſible for them, of themſelves, without great foreign aſſiſtance, to form any party that could make head againſt the government, and they ſent that opinion in writing over to Charles. One of the party, however, was for the attempt being inſtantly made, and had for ſeveral years kept up a correſpondence with the exiled family.

Account and character of the duke of Perth.

This was Drummond, the titular duke of Perth. His family, which was more noble than powerful, had long ſignalized themſelves in favour of the Stuart race, and when James the IId retired to France, he was attended by the head of it and his brother the earl of Melford, both of whom were, by James, made dukes. Perth, though a roman catholic, was a mode-

a moderate and a wiſe man, and therefore laid aſide; Melford was the reverſe, and therefore employed, being a diſtinguiſhed favorite at the court of St. Germains, and one of the chief cauſes of its ruin. The manners and the moderation of Perth, gained him many friends in Great Britain, and by an extraordinary concurrence of circumſtances, his eſtate had deſcended to the perſon here mentioned. He had, till the eighteenth year of his age, by the exceſſive bigottry of his mother and the relations into whoſe hands he fell, been bred in a religious houſe in France, with ſtrict charge given to thoſe who ſuperintended his education, to keep him ignorant of his quality. By accident, however, he came to know it, and had ſpirit enough to free himſelf from his tutelage. The ſtrictneſs of his education gave him the greater reliſh for life after he came into it, and when he found that he had an eſtate ſufficient to make him taſte it; for when he came over to Britain, he fell in with all the gaieties of the age, and adapted himſelf to every mode of pleaſure, which he purſued with all the appearance of diſſipation and thoughtleſſneſs; and in this reſpect he impoſed upon the moſt quick ſighted of the many who kept him company. Notwithſtanding this, and a ſeemingly peculiar delicacy of form and conſtitution, he was, with moſt indefatigable application, carrying on the plan of a deſperate rebellion, into which, when he had entered, he behaved with as much intrepidity, conduct, and ſpirit, as if he had been trained from his cradle to the practice of arms; but without that ferocity that diſtinguiſhed ſome other chiefs of the rebellion, for he ſtill retained that ſoftneſs of manners that had ſo greatly impoſed upon the world. Geo. II. 1745.

But notwithſtanding all his addreſs, the government had intelligence of his dangerous correſpondencies and practices, and a warrant was ſent to apprehend him, which was to be executed by a gentleman of the name of Campbel, who was both a civil and a military officer, at his own houſe. But though Mr. Campbel was attended by a body of troops, which ſurrounded the houſe, and actually had his perſon in his cuſtody, he found means to eſcape to the Highlands, where he afterwards joined Charles. Cope's tryal, p. 166.

It was principally owing to Perth, who was ſomewhat older than Charles, that the latter precipitated his departure from France to Scotland. He had, from his father, a large credit with ſome Iriſh merchants upon the continent, particularly one Walſh, a merchant of great eminency at Nantz, by whoſe intereſt a frigate of 18 guns was procured and equipped for carrying him to Scotland. On board this veſ- The young pretender embarks for Scotland.

Geo. II. 1745.

ſel 900 ſtand of arms were ſhipped [illegible] and Charles himſelf embarked at Port Lazare in Britanny, attended with no more than ſeven adherents, for Scotland. Off the height of Belliſle the Elizabeth joined him, with ſome arms and ammunition, it is to be preſumed, on board, and they directed their courſe by the back of Ireland, for the weſtern iſles of Scotland, &c.

His convoy is attacked by the Lyon man of war.

embarked on the 14th of July, but on the 20th the Elizabeth was attacked by captain Brett, (the ſame officer who under Mr. Anſon had taken Paita) in the Lyon man of war. A fight enſued, by far the moſt deſperate of any that had happened during the courſe of the war, and ſome particulars of it deſerve to be recorded. The Lyon, which had 58 guns, about five in the afternoon ran along ſide the Elizabeth, and began to engage within piſtol-ſhot, and continued in that ſituation till ten, during which time they kept a continual fire at each other. At laſt, the Lyon's rigging being cut to pieces, and her maſts ſhot away, the Elizabeth made off. On this occaſion, the courage and honour of the French commander and crew is remarkable. They knew the importance of their charge, and, as is ſaid, when the ſmall frigate came to aſſiſt them, made the ſignal for her continuing her courſe, which ſhe did, while they mantained a more cloſe fight, and for a longer time, than the French were ever known to do on board a ſhip. Captain Brett, on the other hand, had a coward in one Ruſane for his captain of marines; but his place was gallantly ſupplied by Mr. Leach, the chaplain, who was ſhot dead in encouraging the men. Of the French, the captain and 64 men were killed, and 146 wounded. Captain Brett was wounded, as were all his lieutenants, and he loſt 45 men killed, and had 107 wounded, many of whom died.

London Gazette.

Deſperate ſea fight.

The public in England had, at firſt, but a confuſed notion of the importance of this action, though, at the time it was fought, it was known in Holland that Charles was on board one of the French ſhips. The frigate, in which he was, continued her courſe for the weſtern iſlands, and on the 23d of July was ſeen cruizing between the iſles of Bara and South Viſt, in expectation of being rejoyned by the Elizabeth. Being diſappointed in that, Charles and his followers touched at South Viſt, in hopes of engaging the head of the Clanronalds, who were eminent partiſans of the Stuart family, in his intereſt. In this he ſucceeded only in part, the old chieftain being from home. From thence he ſailed to Ardnamurchan, and landed near the houſe of Kinloch Moidart, a gentleman zealous for his intereſt; and here he and his followers

He lands in the weſtern iſles of Scotland.

lowers were for ſome days entertained, while couriers were Geo. II.
diſpatched to all quarters to ſummon his friends to repair 1745.
to him.

Amongſt thoſe, the chief in that neighbourhood was Came- Account
ron of Lochiel, whoſe father, and grandfather, paſt 90 years of and character of Cameron of
age, were ſtill alive, and had been active in all the rebellions Lochiel,
that had happened ſince the revolution. Young Cameron, with
his father's principles, inherited a military genius, great cou-
rage, and a ſound judgment. He had been one of thoſe who
had ſigned an invitation in 1743 for Charles to come to
Scotland; but, as has been already related, that opportunity
failing, and a great unanimity appearing all over the na-
tion for the royal family, he had altered his opinion, and was
one of thoſe who ſigned a letter to Charles, diſſuading him
from the attempt at that time, which letter Charles either
never received, or pretended he never did. Lochiel would
willingly have diſſuaded Charles from the attempt, till mat-
ters ſhould wear a more promiſing aſpect in his favour.
Charles repreſented, that to go back, after proceeding ſo far,
would be to expoſe himſelf to inevitable ruin, and that in
the ſituation he then was, it was impoſſible for him to avoid
falling into the hands of his enemies. Lochiel, upon recol- who joins
lection, found there was reaſon in what Charles urged, and Charles.
devoted himſelf, his family, friends and followers to his in-
tereſt; but at the ſame time predicted the fatal calamities that
followed. His next ſtep was to ſummon together his clan,
which, though not numerous, was reſolute and determined,
and by the care of their chief, who had been much abroad,
were leſs uninformed than many of the others in the High-
lands. He laid before them his engagements, and they,
againſt their better ſentiments, nay, after remonſtrances, pro-
miſed to follow him, which they afterwards did with un-
paralleled fidelity.

The engaging Lochiel to take the field, quickly altered His ſitua-
the deſponding face of the pretender's cauſe. His ſtandard tion and cir-
was erected, and ſo great was the opinion of Lochiel's cou- cumſtances
rage and abilities amongſt the other clans, that many of at that time.
them flocked to it. The encounter of the Elizabeth with
the Lyon, and her being diſabled from proceeding, gave ſome
colour to the excuſe which Charles made for coming ſo un-
attended as he was, and to the aſſurances he gave his fol-
lowers, that he ſhould ſoon be ſupported effectually from
France. The better ſort amongſt them, who are far from
being either a heavy or an uninformed ſet of men, made his
ſlender appearance an argument in his favour, as they thought

Geo. II. 1745. that none but a mad man would [illegible] without assurances of being greatly supported. But the greatest advantage, next to his claim of blood, which [illegible] this occaſion, was a large ſum in [illegible] he had been furniſhed by his father, and which in that country, was deemed to be a royal treaſure. He likewiſe equipped himſelf with a ſide-board of plate, and [illegible] made in the faſhion of thoſe of the Highlanders.

Character of Charles.

He was at this time about the age of 25. His perſon was well made and graceful, and his aſpect engaging. He ſpoke the Engliſh well for a foreigner of his years, and was more active and robuſt in his perſon than [illegible] Some pains had been taken to form [illegible] and he ſate well on horſeback. In other reſpects his education had been moſt miſerably neglected, which probably was owing to the perpetual ill underſtanding in which his parents lived, and the indolence of his father. His converſation had in it nothing that was either lively or ſolid; but, having early learned the language of royalty, he was very knowing in the duties of allegiance, and the obligations that the people of Great Britain were under to reſtore the family of Stuarts to their throne. He was poſſeſſed of a certain confidence which often effected ſucceſs, but, at laſt, it roſe to a preſumption that occaſioned his ruin and that of his deluded followers. One inſtance that was related by one of the unhappy gentlemen who ſuffered for him, will give the reader an idea of his character in that reſpect. Being told, after the battle of Falkirk, that the govern ment's, or, as his followers affected to call them, the elector's, troops had taken a certain poſt, but that his (Charles's) men had not artillery or arms to diſlodge them, Charles fell into a kind of paſſion, and ordered they ſhould provide themſelves with clubs and cudgels, for theſe were ſufficient to do the buſineſs againſt the enemy. To ſuch folly and vanity did this young man's preſumption ariſe! Though his followers fought three battles in Scotland, he did nothing in them that put his perſonal courage above queſtion; and the moſt knowing in the military art think that he rode, for a brave man, too ſoon off the field at Culloden. His patience and perſeverance under the amazing miſeries he afterwards ſuffered, are but equivocal proofs of his magnanimity, as they may proceed equally from the love of life as from the contempt of hardſhip. Charles ſeemed to be void of all ſentiment; for like his father, grandfather, and grand uncle, he thought that ſubjects could undergo no more than what was their duty to ſuffer, and that loyalty,

loyalty, as being the firſt of all the virtues, ought to be its own reward. Upon his return to France, if he diſcovered any feeling for the many ſufferings of his friends and followers, it was for Ratcliff, though he never had done any thing effectual for his ſervice; and even that feeling was ſo ſlight, that it ſcarcely deſerved the name. Notwithſtanding all that has been ſaid, Charles had an openneſs of manners extremely well adapted to the genius of the people upon whom he threw himſelf; and if he had not perſonal courage, he poſſeſſed ſomewhat ſo like it, that it impoſed upon all about him. Geo. II. 1745.

A number of men equal to the arms Charles had brought along with him being aſſembled, he proceeded to form and to diſcipline them. He had brought along with him one Macdonald, who was dignified by the name of a general, one Sheridan, and one Sullivan, all three of them Iriſhmen, greatly extolled for their capacities in the military art; but it appeared very plainly from the progreſs of the enterprize, that they were very uſeleſs, if not detrimental, to his ſervice. They had, however, found means to gain the private ear of Charles; but he had ſenſe enough to perceive they were unacceptable to his Scotch friends. He therefore found himſelf obliged, upon his firſt ſetting out, to form his little army, which amounted to about 500 men, upon the plan and principles laid down by Lochiel, Glenco, Glengary, Keppock, Clanronald, Macklachlin, and other chiefs, who by this time had joined his ſtandard. All thoſe gentlemen had one character in common, and that was courage to exceſs, and a fidelity to enthuſiaſm in the cauſe they had embraced. Thoſe amongſt them of the moſt diſcernment, though their zeal for Charles was not diminiſhed, had but an indifferent opinion of his judgment with regard to his Iriſh favourites. Three have been already mentioned, and the fourth was the famous Mr. George Kelly, who had been chaplain to, and was intruſted by, Atterbury biſhop of Rocheſter, on whoſe account he was impriſoned in the Tower, from which he eſcaped in a manner little to his honour. He was a warm, pragmatical, empty man, and his intimacy with that prelate, who employed him not for his abilities but his zeal, was the great merit he urged, and his principal recommendation at the pretender's court. He had a moſt wretched pen, a ſlender knowledge of the character, and none of the conſtitution, of the people of England, and perſonally either unknown or obnoxious to the heads of the party, yet he was pitched upon as the man moſt proper for animating by his writings, and managing by his addreſs, the people of South Britain. He could

His progreſs.

Account and character of Kelly.

Geo. II. 1745.

could not, however, impoſe upon the North Britons, and Charles found his preſence ſo prejudicial to his affairs, that he was obliged to ſend him back to the continent upon a pretext of buſineſs.

The marquis of Tullibardine,

William marquis of Tullibardine was one of the ſeven adherents who came over with Charles, and by far the moſt uſeful amongſt them. During this nobleman's youth, his father, the duke of Athol, was looked upon as the moſt conſiderable of all the oppoſers of the union, and a man of greater honour, and political courage, than the duke of Hamilton. It was therefore no wonder that his ſon and heir, the man now ſpoken of, was courted and ſeduced by the jacobite party, whoſe cauſe he implicitely and honeſtly followed. Upon the occaſion now treated of, he diſcovered a much better judgment, than, from certain indications of his conduct, the public, and even his own friends, had allowed him. Being a very bad oeconomiſt, his life, when abroad, had been chequered with ſeveral viciſſitudes; but he had the ſpirit to claim, and to obtain, after a ſolemn pleading, all the privileges and protection which, by antient laws and conventions, were allowed to Scotch noblemen in France. Upon his attainder, the king and parliament of Great Britain had capacitated his next brother to ſucceed to the eſtate and honours of Athol; but many followers of the family could not diveſt themſelves of that attachment to primogeniture, which amongſt thoſe deſcendents of the antient Celtæ, is held ſo ſacred. The marquis had no reaſon to be ſatisfied with the old pretender's treatment of him; but he embarked heartily in the intereſts of the ſon, and by his authority and connections, was of great ſervice to the party.

and lord George Murray.

His brother, lord George Murray, followed the ſame ſtandard with equal zeal, but with far greater perſonal abilities. He was a man of principle and humanity, and by nature, brave to heroiſm. His judgment in military matters was ſound; and it was ſurprizing with what facility he rendered his own followers, from being a rude militia, excellent troops. But he was not truſted on account of his family connections, two of his brothers being in the Britiſh parliament, and great pains were taken by ſome heads of the clans, and by the Iriſh favourites, to give Charles bad impreſſions of him. He was, however, chiefly on account of his brother the marquis, too conſiderable a man to be neglected, and Charles immediately appointed him to the rank of lieutenant general. It was given out that he was under particular obligations to the government; but nothing of that appears, excepting his taking,

with

with thouſands more, the benefit of the act of grace, which paſſed after the rebellion of 1715, in which he had been engaged. Geo. II. 1745.

Public credit in England is of ſo delicate a ſtructure, that the government is always very cautious of publiſhing any thing that can affect it. The embarkation of Charles was notified in the French papers in July; and the place of his deſtination was known, but the undertaking was looked upon to be ſo romantic, that the public was diſpoſed to believe nothing about it. Mr. Trevor at the Hague, however, and the other Britiſh miniſters abroad, had orders to mention the thing expreſsly to the ſeveral courts where they reſided, as an attempt of the pretender againſt his majeſty's crown and kingdom, and the Dutch were given to underſtand, that it was probable the 6000 men they were obliged, in caſe of Great Britain being invaded, to furniſh, would be demanded. Sir Hector Maclean, who had come to Scotland from Holland or France, and ſeveral agents of the pretender, had been ſeized and ſent up to London, where they were committed to Newgate; but though the government was certain of Charles having embarked, they could make no diſcoveries that could aſcertain the place of his deſtination in Scotland. Some of the heads of the clans had imparted to the government of Scotland letters they had received from the young pretender, inviting them to join him; but the lord advocate, and the reſt of the miniſtry there, ſeemed to diſbelieve it, till the duke of Argyle produced a certain confirmation of the fact by a letter from ſir Donald Cambel of Lochiel. But his intelligence, certain and circumſtantial as it was, obtained a very ſlow and unwilling belief from the acting part of the Scotch miniſtry, who thought that the intelligence reflected with diſadvantage upon their vigilance. This had ſome effect even at London, and all that was done was to order ſir John Cope, who commanded in chief the forces in Scotland, to march with as many troops as he could get together, and to cruſh the inſurrection before it came to a head. The public ſtill continued unalarmed, till ſeveral affidavits of the numbers and force of the rebels were made at Edinburgh, till the duke of Argyle arrived at London, and till it was certainly known that the rebels had made priſoners a captain of the army and about 70 men of Sinclair's regiment. Notwithſtanding thoſe threatning appearances, ſome, either through deſign or weakneſs, treated the whole of the invaſion as a deluſion, ſo late as the 22d of Auguſt.

The Dutch troops demanded. July 19.

Memorial of Mr. Trevor, dated Aug. 6.

Sir Hector Maclean and others ſeized.

Dated Aug. 5.

When

Geo. II. 1745.

When the truth could be no longer concealed, ſir John Cope took all [illegible] render his march againſt the rebels [illegible] the heads of the well-affected [illegible] received from them aſſurances [illegible] ordered bread and other victuals [illegible] upon their march, great part of [illegible] very deſart barren country, and [illegible] at Stirling. He had aſſurances [illegible] body of well-affected highlanders, [illegible] 1000 ſtand of ſpare arms for that purpoſe, [illegible] ſelf diſappointed, and that the roads were [illegible] and the carriage inconvenient, [illegible] of them. Though his march [illegible] on account of the danger of the ſwelling of rivers, which generally happens in that country about the autumnal equinox, yet the troops bore it with vaſt alacrity. His orders were to march to what is there called the Chain, which is the road between Inverneſs and Fort William, Fort Auguſtus lying mid-way between both; and to attack the rebels, who were ſuppoſed to be lying on the weſtward of the Chain, about Glenfinnan, where their ſtandard was firſt erected. When ſir John Cope came to Dalwhinny, he had intelligence that the rebels had poſted themſelves at a very ſtrong paſs, called Corrieroch, which lay on the eaſt ſide of the Chain, directly in ſir John's way to Fort Auguſtus.

March of ſir John Cope againſt the rebels.

It is to this day not a little unaccountable, that it was not foreſeen, the rebels, who knew the country well, would not have ſagacity enough to avail themſelves of this poſt, by which, in fact, they had almoſt as near a march to Stirling and the Low Countries of Scotland, as the king's troops, in their then poſition, had. It is likewiſe ſurprizing, that no attempt was made to diſlodge them. Sir John Cope took the opinion of his officers, and upon hearing the report of the impracticability of the paſs, and the numbers of the rebels, now about 1600, it was reſolved, that the rebels, in their then ſituation, could not be attacked with any proſpect of ſucceſs. It was then debated, whether the troops ſhould return to Stirling, but it was found that the enemy had it in their power to break down the bridge of Kinnachin, over an unfordable river, by which their retreat muſt be cut off, and the men be expoſed to the mercy of the rebels. Add to this, that for want of horſes to bring proviſions along, they were now become very ſcarce; the men were fatigued, and the rebels could march through ways that regular troops neither

neither could march nor ſubſiſt in. Upon the whole, as the attack of the rebels was judged to be impracticable, it was reſolved to march to Inverneſs, from thence to Aberdeen, and there to take ſhipping for the ſouthern parts of Scotland, which the rebels declared they were to march to. Conſidering that the king's troops had with them artillery and engineers, that the rebels were yet few, untrained, and ill-armed, and that the Lowlands of Scotland muſt, by that reſolution, become a prey to them, this was thought a very extraordinary march; eſpecially before any thing was attempted againſt the enemy. Geo. II. 1745.

He is obliged to go to Inverneſs.

Lord Loſe, however, at all adventures wheeled off towards the right, and reached Inverneſs without moleſtation, to the great exultation of Charles and his friends, who immediately ſet out ſouthwards. The king's troops at Inverneſs were joined by 200 of the clan of Munro, under a brother of ſir Robert Munro, an officer in the king's ſervice, and the general was viſited by ſeveral of the chief nobility and gentry of the country, moſt of whom, though they had followers, contributed only by their good wiſhes, to the ſucceſs of the royal cauſe. Mr. Forbes, the lord preſident of Scotland; was then in thoſe parts, his eſtate lying near Inverneſs, and ſir John Cope after an interview with him, and concerting ſome meaſures for diſtreſſing, or rather diſappointing, the rebels, and repoſing for five days at Inverneſs, ſet out on his march for Aberdeen, where tranſports had, with wonderful facility and quickneſs, been provided, for carrying his troops ſouthward.

The rebels march towards the Lowlands.

The people of England were not more amazed at this management of the king's general, than they were at the unconcern, which the heads of what were called the well-affected clans, ſhewed for his ſervice. Charles with his followers immediately fell into the Low Countries of Scotland, and on the 3d of September he proclaimed his father at Dunkeld, and next day he entered Perth, one of the chief towns of Scotland, and deemed the key of the highlands. In his progreſs, his army was greatly increaſed. The marquis of Tullibardine had ſent him ſeveral reinforcements, which he had raiſed amongſt the tenants of the Athol eſtate; and lord Nairn, lord George Murray, with many gentlemen of the country, now joined him. While Charles remained at Perth, he exerciſed his men, and upon a review, he found they amounted to about 3000; but moſt of them miſerably armed and accoutred. The followers, however, of Clanronald, ſeized the town of Dundee, a place of great impor-

Geo. II. 1745.

importance, and lying in a wealthy country. The reception Charles met with, however, in the Lowlands of Scotland was far from being ſo cordial as he imagined it would be. He durſt not complain, but he ſeemed penſive. For though his followers met with no oppoſition in the counties of Fife and Angus, where they ſpread themſelves, yet there was in general a viſible reluctance in the common people to join them, excepting when they were influenced by their ſuperiors. This reluctance was chiefly owing to the firmneſs with which the eſtabliſhed clergy of their church adhered to the government, which makes it neceſſary to touch a little upon the ſtate of religion in that country.

Progreſs of the rebellion.

State of religion and parties in Scotland.

The civil principles of the Scots have been always directed by their religious ones. At the time now treated of, and ever ſince the revolution, preſbyterianiſm was the eſtabliſhed religion of Scotland. This happened through the unſeaſonable obſtinacy of the Scotch biſhops at the revolution, a ſlaviſh uninformed ſet of men, who refuſed to recognize king William's right to the crown, though it was his inclination as well as his intereſt, to have continued their church, epiſcopal. The tory party in England, however, found means to procure the epiſcopal party ſuch a toleration, that they ſtill continued the exerciſe of their worſhip. They kept up the order and ſucceſſion of their biſhops, and when they were proſecuted, by the zeal or madneſs of the preſbyterians, who had the management of affairs in Scotland, they generally found relief, either from the government of England, or from the increaſe of their party in Scotland, or from both. At the time now treated of, they were very numerous in Scotland; and if we except thoſe who were indifferent about all modes of religion, and thoſe who ſeceded through enthuſiaſm from the eſtabliſhed church, they were in ſome northern counties as numerous as the preſbyterians, and more conſiderable, both in their fortunes and families. The ſouthern and the weſtern parts of Scotland, however, which are the moſt populous and wealthy parts of the country, were moſtly preſbyterians, though thoſe of the epiſcopal perſuaſion had the advantage of being more united amongſt themſelves, and all of them either openly or ſecretly were jacobites. Though the preſbyterians were far from being ſo unanimous in their political principles, yet, in general, they were well-diſpoſed towards the government, and their clergy, almoſt to a man, were ſtrenuous in its ſupport. The epiſcopal party had long been uſed to diſguiſe their ſentiments, being generally nonjurors, and great numbers of them being

mell

men of property, diſliked the raſh attempt made in favour of Charles, and either refuſed to join him, or ſtept aſide; while many of the preſbyterians boldly owned their allegiance to the proteſtant ſucceſſion, even while they were under the power of the rebels. Geo. II. 1745.

Charles affected great moderation upon that and all other heads of difference between himſelf and his enemies. He condemned the plundering, too often practiſed by his men, but he was rigorous in exacting the public money that was raiſed for the uſe of the government, and the contributions impoſed by his authority.

Upon leaving Perth, Charles directed his march to Dumblane, and on the 14th of September they paſſed the Firth, at a place called Frew, in ſight of Gardiner's dragoons; and after making a feint, as if they had been to march to Glaſgow, they marched directly for Edinburgh. A great number of the moſt ſubſtantial of the inhabitants of that city were then epiſcopiſts, and diſaffected; but the friends and dependents of the government, and the principal preſbyterians, had been numerous enough to make a vaſt ſhew of reſiſtance. Two regiments of dragoons, Gardiner's and Hamilton's, lay in the neighbourhood, between the city and the rebels. A great number of volunteers enliſted themſelves in defence of the government, and a regiment, of a thouſand foot, which the lord provoſt, who was the chief magiſtrate of the place, was to command, was ordered to be raiſed by ſubſcription. The trained bands of the city, and the city guard, were in excellent order; the magiſtrates ſeemed diſpoſed to defend the place to the laſt extremity, and Mr. Maclaurin, the famous mathematician, acted as chief engineer, in mounting the feeble walls of the city with artillery, and in rendering the place defenſible againſt an enemy, but half armed, and without cannon of any kind. 13 London Gazette. Charles marches for Edinburgh. State of that city.

All this ſhew of zeal, however, was no more than parade. For though the city regiment and guard marched about a mile out of town towards the rebels, who were ſtill advancing, yet the volunteers refuſed to leave the place. The cowardice of the dragoons, who retired, as the rebels approached, gave the inhabitants ſome colour for thinking of delivering up the place. The dragoons had made a haſty retreat eaſtward; the city regiment and guard had returned tumultuouſly into the city, which was filled with terror, improved by the numerous friends and agents of the pretender, who were within it. A general meeting of the inhabitants was called by the lord provoſt; the offer made them by Preparations to defend it.

Geo. II. 1745. brigadier-general Fowke, of [illegible] goons for their aſſiſtance, was rejected, and [illegible] mous, though tumultuous, reſolution was [illegible] defending the city. In the mean while, an agent of the pretender had the boldneſs to preſent to the lord provoſt, in the face of the meeting, a letter from Charles, which was not publicly read; but deputies were appointed to treat about the terms of ſurrender, and actually went about two miles out of town, where the pretender was, and conferred with him and his officers upon that head.

General Gueſt, who commanded in the caſtle, being informed of thoſe diſpoſitions, had the precaution to obtain poſſeſſion of all the ſmall arms, that had been delivered for the defence of the place. The money of the two banks that are at Edinburgh, was removed to the caſtle, as were the moſt valuable effects of ſuch people of diſtinction as were friends to the government, while they themſelves, to prevent inſult or impriſonment from the rebels, retired, ſome towards England, and others to their eſtates. The particulars of the conference about ſurrendering the city, were beſt known by the conſequences. For, upon the return of the deputies before day-break, they ſent the coach they were in to the Cannongate, by which there was a neceſſity of opening the Netherbowgate to let it paſs, which, no ſooner was done, than a party of the Camerons, who, very probably by connivance, were poſted under the cover of ſome adjacent houſes, ruſhed in, took poſſeſſion of the gate, marched on towards the main guard, and took priſoners all whom they found in arms. Before five in the morning, the ſtreets and chief ſquare in the city were lined with the rebels, who made a moſt miſerable, yet frightful, appearance, but were guilty of fewer irregularities than could have been expected.

It is given up to the rebels.

Charles, in the mean while, to avoid the batteries of the caſtle, had taken a large circuit to the eaſtward, and entered the palace of Holyrood-houſe, the reſidence of the kings of Scotland. Beſides the noblemen and gentlemen already mentioned, he was now attended by the viſcount of Strathallan, who had been long his declared partizan, and by the lord Elcho. This was a thoughtleſs young nobleman, and eldeſt ſon to the earl of Wemys, whoſe father had been firſt lord of the admiralty under the tory miniſtry in queen Anne's time. The ſon had never been remarkable till now for his attachment to the exiled family, and being heir to a good eſtate,

Increaſe of their ſtrength.

eſtate, with ſome other advantages attending his relations, Geo. II.
he was thought a valuable acquiſition to the cauſe. 1745.

Charles being now lodged in the palace, was attended by Mr. Murray, a gentleman of ſome fortune in the ſouth of Scotland, as his ſecretary of ſtate; and a mandate was iſſued but with all the formality of lawful authority, for ſolemnly proclaiming his father at the croſs of Edinburgh, which was accordingly done, and at the ſame time, three manifeſto's were read by the purſuivants, who performed the ceremony.

Manifeſtos of Charles and his father.

The firſt was in the name of the old pretender, declaring his right to the crown of Scotland, railing againſt the union, bewailing the hardſhips the Scots had ſuffered in conſequence of it, and complaining of the treatment which his faithful highlanders had received from the government. He then moſt graciouſly remitted all treaſons that had been committed againſt his father and againſt himſelf, and extended his pardon to all who ſhould not oppoſe his arms. He promiſed to call a free parliament, to aboliſh the malt-tax, and all other impoſitions and taxes that had been laid on, in conſequence of the union; to reſtore the nation to its ancient liberty and independency, to protect, ſecure, and maintain all his proteſtant ſubjects in the free exerciſe of their religion, and in the full enjoyments of all their rights, privileges, and immunities, and in the ſecure poſſeſſion of all churches, univerſities, colleges, and ſchools, conformable to the laws of the land. He next promiſed mighty matters for the advancement of trade, the relief of the poor, and improving the fiſhery, and linnen manufacture. He promiſed to reward thoſe who ſhould be moſt forward to ſerve him, and to pay all ſoldiers and ſailors, who ſhould leave the government's ſervice, and enter into his, their whole arrears, and a year's pay beſides; and to all officers the ſame, if not higher, commiſſions, as they held under the government; he then threatens all thoſe who ſhall reſiſt him, and encourages others to join him, and in ſhort, commands all, from the age of 16 to 60, to join his ſtandards. He orders the arms and horſes of all ſuſpected perſons to be ſeized; that the public money ſhould be paid into the hands of his receivers, and that his declaration ſhould be read, and himſelf proclaimed, through all the towns and burroughs in the kingdom.

The ſecond manifeſto read upon this occaſion, was likewiſe in the name of the old pretender, conſtituting and appointing his ſon Charles, to be ſole regent of the kingdoms

Geo. II. 1745. of Scotland, England, and Ireland, and all other dominions during his abſence.

The third manifeſto was in the name of Charles himſelf, ſtiling himſelf prince-regent, commanding obedience to himſelf as ſuch, and enforcing all that had been ſaid in his father's firſt declaration.

Theſe three manifeſto's, which were very poorly penned, were moſt induſtriouſly circulated all over the kingdom, by means of the printing-preſſes, which the rebels had ſeized at Edinburgh; but they produced little effect. Thoſe who had join'd them, had done it either through a principle of conſcience or deſpair, and the friends of the government were but the more confirmed in their allegiance, by ſuch feeble efforts to ſhake it.

Demands of the rebels upon Edinburgh.

The rebels, however, had now the ſword in their hand againſt a defenceleſs people; and Charles ſent, to the magiſtrates of Edinburgh, a paper, ſigned by himſelf, demanding, on pain of military execution, a thouſand tents, two thouſand targets, ſix thouſand pair of ſhoes, and a proportionable quantity of tin water-cantines, for the uſe of his army, which demand was complied with, as far as circumſtances would admit. Upon the back of this, an order was proclaimed, "Requiring all the inhabitants of the city and ſuburbs, and of the county of Mid-Lothian, to give up, at their own expence, the whole of the arms and ammunition in their cuſtody, under pain of being deemed rebels, and treated as ſuch." At the ſame time, drums beat up for ſoldiers, with extraordinary promiſes of pay and preferment. This raiſed a few, and the whole number of the rebels amounted now to about 4000.

Sir John Cope had not ſuffered his army to halt one day in its march between Inverneſs and Aberdeen; where finding the tranſports ready, the troops went on board, and arrived on the 16th of September at Dunbar, the whole being diſembarked on the 18th. On the 19th, they marched towards Edinburgh, and encamped all night between that city and Hadingtoun. It was expected, that this near approach of the royal army would have encouraged the city of Edinburgh to have held out. But the truth is, the people of Scotland at this time in general, were impreſt with a great contempt for the courage of the king's troops. The ſhameful behaviour of the dragoons, in not attacking, or, at leaſt, oppoſing the rebels in their march to Edinburgh, gave but too much cauſe for this; and it was confirmed, when they heard that Cope had not dared to attack them, but was returning

General Cope returns.

returning southward. They had seen the opportunity of dif- Geo. II.
perſing the rebels before they became numerous, loſt, by the 1745.
British general being obliged to wait for the baking of bread, baggage-horſes, and money to carry him through his march; and yet they had ſeen the rebels, with the young pretender at their head, perform the ſame march, without any of thoſe precautions, with eaſe and conveniency. It would be unreaſonable to ſay, that there were good grounds for all thoſe reflections, but the facts, upon which they were founded, evinced at leaſt that the marching a body of regulars is ſubject to many inconveniencies.

The regiments of dragoons who had joined Cope at Dunbar, had retired with ſo much precipitation from Edinburgh, that they had neither their tents nor their picquets along with them. As he had no horſe to encounter, however, he drew them up only two deep; and had the pleaſure to ſee all his foot in excellent order and ſpirits, wiſhing for nothing ſo earneſtly as to have an opportunity of fighting the rebels. Near Hadington, he was joined by Mr. Drummond, late lord provoſt of Edinburgh, and a body of volunteers, whom he found to be very uſeful in getting intelligence of the enemy's motions and numbers; and being likewiſe met by many perſons of great conſideration in the country, and zealous friends of the government, he imagined himſelf almoſt ſure of victory, if the rebels ſhould dare to ſtand their ground. He even had hopes of being joined by the Dutch troops, who were every hour expected to land in the Frith of Forth, and he ſent out boats to give them an account where he was. He marches againſt the rebels.

On the 20th of September, the quarter-maſter-general, the earls of Loudon and Hume, and colonel Whiteford, were ſent out to reconnoitre the ground proper for an encampment, and they ſaw the whole body of the rebels in full march towards the king's army. The advanced guard, before the earl of Loudon could inform Cope of this, was got to the eaſt end of the plain, that lies between Seaton and Preſton, into a field, that the general thought very proper for an encampment. It had to the weſt a ſtone wall, to the ſouth a ditch and moraſs, to the eaſt Seaton-houſe and parks, to the north Preſton-pans, Cockney, and the ſea, without any break in the whole field on which they were encamped. In this ſituation the enemy did not think proper to attack him, ſo they marched eaſtward, and took poſſeſſion of Tranent church-yard, out of which, after changing his front, he diſlodged them with his cannon. They then Cope's narrative. Report of the board of general officers. Whiteford's narrative. Ib.d.

Geo. II. 1745. made several different motions, which obliged him to do so too. In the evening they returned westward, and remained on the hill to the southward of Cope, and towards which he fronted, and lay on his arms all night. He took possession of colonel Gardiner's house, and secured the pass on the south-west angle of the field. There were no other ways for the rebels to get in, but by two defiles on the south-east, and one on the north-west, angles. These he guarded by the two squadrons of dragoons from the corps de reserve, who had orders to continue patroling constantly, and to bring him intelligence of the enemy's motion. He would have thrown cohorns in the night, but by the experiments he had made, he found that few of them burst, which, he apprehended, if they perceived, would take off their fear of them.

He encamps.

Ibid. Cope being thus provided in a camp, so much suited to his mind, and situated so as, if attacked, to give all his army, horse and foot, full room to act, found that he had no gunners. Some had been sent down from London, but by misfortune, they never arrived at the army; and according to his own evidence, there were but two gentlemen in his army, Mr. Griffin, an engineer, belonging to the castle of Edinburgh, and lieutenant colonel Whiteford, who knew how to fire a cannon. By colonel Whiteford's evidence, however, it appears that he got some gunners from the king's ships in the road of Leith. As to the numbers that composed the royal army, they are not known; for though the board of general officers, who examined and enquired into the conduct of sir John Cope, and the other two general officers, required him to lay before them the particulars of the numbers of which his army was composed, and though sir John complied with their request, by delivering to the board such a list, yet it has been prudently withheld from the eyes of the public. The line of battle, however, we know was composed of five companies of Lee's regiment, on the right; Murray's regiment, on the left; eight companies of Lascelle's regiment, with two of Guise's, in the center; two squadrons of Gardiner's dragoons, on the right, and two of Hamilton's, on the left. The corps de reserve was composed of a squadron of Gardiner's, on the right, a squadron of Hamilton's, on the left, and five companies of highlanders, and Mr. Drummond with the volunteers, in the center. By this disposition, and the situation of the ground, the king's army could be attacked only in front, and left the rebels, after being routed, should retire to Edinburgh, and shut the gates of that city, to stop the pursuit, the

Disposition of his army.

Ibid.

the British general concerted with general Gueſt, who com- Geo. II.
manded in the caſtle of Edinburgh, that he ſhould beat down 1745.
a part of the town-wall, in order to admit his army, which, ——
all the night before the engagement, lay upon their arms.

It muſt be admitted, that upon this occaſion the rebels behaved with infinite addreſs. They ſaw all the people of diſtinction flocking into the royal camp, and ſupplying the ſoldiers with whatever was neceſſary, ſo that they had proviſions and liquors even to a degree of luxury. The very country Ibid.
people had an aſpect of chearfulneſs, when they aſſiſted the king's troops in bringing up their cannon, or their baggage, or in any work neceſſary about the camp, and large fires were kept blazing all night, as it were to illuminate their feſtivity. The rebels, on the other hand, had but one ſolitary lanthorn in all their camp, and perceiving the great pains Cope was at in his diſpoſitions, they vary'd their motions, ſo as to give him trouble to ſuit the order of his army to that of theirs. Theſe motions had all the effects they could deſire. Their ſhadowy movements, juſt diſcernible in the darkneſs of the night, ſtruck the regulars firſt with ſuſpenſe, and then with dread.

On the morning of the 21ſt of September, the patroles of The battle
the royal army reported, that the rebels were moving to- of Preſton-
wards the eaſt, but they varied their motions ſeveral times, pans.
till at laſt they formed, ſo as to outflank the royal army on the left. Upon this, Cope ſent to colonel Whiteford, who was poſted on the right with the artillery, under a guard of 100 men, for cannon to annoy them; but, unfortunately, the countrymen, whoſe horſes had been employed in bringing up the artillery, conceiving that they had not met with the returns which their alacrity in the ſervice deſerved, had rode off with their horſes, ſo that no cannon could be brought to the left. Upon colonel Whiteford firing his cannon, which did ſome execution upon the rebels as they advanced, they, with inconceivable readineſs, formed themſelves into three columns. That upon the left was about 20 in front and 30 deep, and they ran reſolutely upon the king's cannon on the right. Colonel Whiteford kept firing, and more of the rebels fell, but they continued to advance with wonderful rapidity and reſolution, and all the way kept up an irregular fire, and cloſed their ranks when any of them fell, as ſome few did. Whiteford imagined they were ſtag- Ibid.
gered as they were forming, and he called out to colonel Whitney to attack them in flank with his dragoons. He received the ſame orders at the ſame time from ſir John

Geo. II. 1745. Cope by lord Loudon. Upon this, Whitney marched out, and wheeled his ſquadron, and got within piſtol ſhot of their flank, but upon the highlanders pouring a few ſhot upon his men, they ſtopt, and could not be prevailed upon to advance. The earl of Loudon, the colonel, and other officers, did all they could to perſuade them, but in vain; for the rear flank began to run away, and the reſt following, while colonel Whitney, who, it ſeems, behaved very gallantly, was wounded. Colonel Gardiner's ſquadron behaved no better, for though they had an opportunity of attacking the rebels while they were broken with running over the cannon and artillery-guard, yet, after receiving a few ſhot from them, they reined back their horſes, and went off likewiſe. The dragoons upon the left, at the ſame time, rode off alſo, without being attacked, and ſo did the two ſquadrons that made up the corps de reſerve of the king's army, and all of them ſo near the ſame inſtant, that it was difficult to ſay which ran firſt.

Left by the king's troops. Ibid.

The general, not able to prevent or remedy this ſhameful flight of the dragoons, went to the foot to try, by their means, to retrieve the affair. "For God ſake, ſaid he, gentlemen, behave like Britons; give them another fire, and you'll make them run—don't let us be beat by ſuch a ſet of banditti." But after the foot had given one fire, they all fled to the right about; and notwithſtanding all that the general and the other officers could do, they all diſperſed, though many of them, who were cut in pieces moſt miſerably by the rebels, might have been ſaved, had they ſtood their ground and kept their ranks.

In the mean while the dragoons ran away with ſo much precipitancy, that they were ſtopt for ſome minutes in their flight by the walls of Mr. Erſkin's encloſures; but tho' many of them were killed by the enemy's ſhot, they never faced about. The general having ineffectually endeavoured to rally the foot, and make them load again, rode back to the dragoons, where he found the earls of Loudon and Hume, both of them officers in his majeſty's ſervice, endeavouring to perſuade them to face about and rally; but all theirs and the general's ſolicitations proved in vain; for when the morning grew light, they found their way into the road, and broke away. The general had now nothing left but with the two earls to try to get to the end of the village of Preſton, and there endeavour to ſtop them. He made his way by a ſouth defile, and lord Hume got firſt to the head of the dragoons at the weſt end of the village. There the general found him with his piſtol

piſtol in his hand, and lord Loudon turning the dragoons into a field adjoining to the road leading to the village, and lying ſouth of it: and with the aſſiſtance of the two lords, Mr. Drummond, majors Moſſman and Singleton, captains Wemys and Forbes, and the other officers of the two regiments, he got about 450 of them into the field; and at the time one ſquadron of them was formed, the other being in two bodies, the rebels preſented themſelves at the end of the village, and halted upon ſeeing the dragoons formed. Upon this, it was propoſed to attack them with the ſquadron that was formed; but they could not be prevailed upon to advance. All that the general then could do, was to endeavour to keep them in a body, and to put himſelf at their head, ſo as their retreat might be as decent as poſſible. This was no eaſy taſk. The men were conſcious how ill they had behaved; and had not the general and their officers behaved with the utmoſt prudence and circumſpection, they might have ſought their ſafety in going over to the enemy. After conſultation it was agreed, that the general ſhould march with the dragoons to Berwick, which he accordingly did, after lying a night by the way. As to the foot, they were put to a total rout, and in a manner gave their throats to the ſwords of the enemy, or begged for quarter upon their knees. Colonel Gardiner, who was a worthy and a brave man, was killed upon the ſpot, with near 400 of the king's troops, and the priſoners amounted to about 1200. Amongſt them were colonel Wright, major Bowles, two cornets and a quarter-maſter of Hamilton's dragoons, a lieutenant, two cornets, and a quarter-maſter, and the lieutenant colonel of Gardiner's dragoons, lieutenant colonel Halket, lieutenant colonel Clayton, and lieutenant colonel Whiteford, major Severn, major Talbot, and major Griffith, twenty captains, twenty-four lieutenants, and twenty-nine enſigns, in all, eighty-three officers, with the train of artillery, and tents, baggage, colours, and the military cheſt, amounting to about 6000l. in ſpecie. Geo. II. 1745.

As to the rebels, it muſt be acknowledged their behaviour, both before and after the battle, was much better than could have been expected from men who, like them, were unuſed either to civil or military life, but had ſpent their days in a ſtate between both. The young pretender had a viſible uneaſineſs hanging about him, notwithſtanding all his endeavours to conceal it; but acted with tolerable ſpirit at the head of his party, where, drawing his ſword, he told them "he had thrown away the ſcabbard, and that if they would

Geo. II. 1745. follow him, he would make them a free and happy people." Notwithſtanding this, he was eaſily perſuaded to go with a ſmall party to a riſing ground out of the reach of danger. His right wing was commanded by Perth, and his left by lord George Murray, who both of them behaved with an intrepidity that would have done honour to the moſt experienced generals. The men addreſſed themſelves to prayer before the attack; and it undoubtedly was owing to their fearleſs ruſhing upon the mouth of the cannon that the king's army conſidered them as ſo many invulnerable furies, and was ſtruck with that unaccountable pannic which put ſuch a ſhameful period to the battle. The targets with which many of the rebels were armed, undoubtedly added to their boldneſs; and their whole loſs was only two captains, one lieutenant, and one enſign, and about 40 private men killed and about 80 wounded. To do Perth juſtice, had it not been for him, the carnage muſt have been greater, nor did Charles himſelf ſeem backward in putting a ſtop to it. For he no ſooner ſaw the day decided in his favour, than mounting a horſe he rode into the field of battle, and by Perth's advice, ſent to Edinburgh for ſurgeons. He expreſſed himſelf, however, with great levity and unconcern, but in a manner that ſhowed he thought that his followers had fairly done their duty. Perth, lord George Murray, and the laird, who were the three braveſt and beſt men he had under him, obſerving this, were at great pains to give the beſt turn to every thing he ſaid or did, and all the humanity they expreſſed in taking care of the wounded, and in ſending them to infirmaries, was induſtriouſly placed to his account.

Ibid. Loſs on both ſides.

Ibid. Thus ended a day diſgraceful to Britiſh arms. Sir John Cope, colonel Laſcelles, and brigadier general Fowke, were afterwards called upon before a board of enquiry of general officers, compoſed of field marſhal Wade, preſident, lieutenant generals lord Cadogan, John Folliot, Charles duke of Richmond, John Guiſe, who after a full examination into their conduct, made the following report to his majeſty:

"That having made all the enquiry we could after proper perſons who were able to give us any information relating to the matters in queſtion; and having examined all ſuch as could be brought before us (there being ſeveral others whoſe duty on your majeſty's ſervice in Scotland would not admit of their leaving it to come before us) it doth appear to us, and we are unanimouſly of opinion, that ſir John Cope made all the proper and neceſſary preparations for the ſupport of the

the troops with as much diſpatch as he was able, both at Edinburgh and at Stirling." Geo. II. 1745.

"That he alſo made the proper applications to the chiefs of the clans, that were reputed to be well affected to your majeſty and government, for them to join your majeſty's troops."

"That he uſed all poſſible diligence and expedition before, and in his march to Dalwhinny, conſidering the difficulties and diſappointments he met with."

"That his attacking the rebels on the Corryarick, with any proſpect of ſucceſs, was impracticable."

"That his march to Inverneſs is juſtified by the unanimous opinion of the council of war, and by the repeated aſſurances of being joined on the march, and at Inverneſs by the clans that were reputed to be well affected to your majeſty and the government, of which he afterwards found himſelf to be diſappointed, except by 200 Munroes, who marched with him from Inverneſs to Aberdeen."

"That his going to Aberdeen, and then by ſea to Dunbar, was the only proper meaſure he had left to take."

"That ſir John Cope's diſpoſition of his body of troops in the field of action, was judicious; and the ground on which they were engaged (according to the plan and deſcription of many officers who were preſent) appears to have been well choſen."

"That he did his duty as an officer both before, at, and after the action; and that his perſonal behaviour was without reproach."

"And that the misfortune on the day of action, was owing to the ſhameful behaviour of the private men, and not to any miſconduct or miſbehaviour of ſir John Cope, or any of the officers under his command."

"As to colonel Peregrine Laſcelles, it does not appear to us, that any miſconduct or miſbehaviour can be laid to his charge; he having plainly proved that he was at his poſt both before and after the action."

"As to brigadier general Thomas Fowke, we are of opinion, that his march from Colt bridge to Dunbar was right; and the offers he made twice to the lord provoſt of Edinburgh, to march into that city with the dragoons for its defence, though refuſed, were commendable."

"And that his perſonal behaviour in the action, was alſo without reproach; and that he did not quit the field of action, before the troops were entirely broke and diſperſed."

"Upon

Geo. II. 1745.

"Upon the whole, we are unanimously of opinion, that ſir John Cope's behaviour has been [illegible] and that there is no ground for accuſation againſt the ſaid ſir John Cope, colonel Peregrine Lafcelles, or brigadier general Thomas Fowke."

"All which is humbly ſubmitted to your majeſty.

"George Wade,
Cadogan,
John Forbes,
Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny,
J. Guiſe."

Reflections.

Such was the acquittal which Cope and the other two commanding officers obtained upon this ſhameful occaſion; whether impartial poſterity will be equally favourable to them, becomes not us to ſay. That time was loſt in the king's troops marching ſouthward, ſeems evident; and likewiſe that the whole of that march was a crude, undigeſted, meaſure, as nothing happened that was not eaſy and natural to be foreſeen.

After the rebels had gained the battle of Preſton Pans, nothing was thought too difficult for them to attempt; and had they, whilſt the firſt conſternation dwelt upon the minds of the public, marched ſouthward, the conſequences might have proved more fatal than they were. Gen. [illegible] who commanded in the caſtle of Edinburgh, [illegible] while on this, that he very artfully contrived that ſome letters, complaining of the neceſſities of his garriſon, and his want of proviſions and ammunition, ſhould fall into the hands of the rebels; and this determined them to beſiege the caſtle of Edinburgh, where they knew a great part of the national property was depoſited. The young pretender affected upon this occaſion great popularity. The government had put a reward of 30,000 l. upon his head, and he had the inſolence to publiſh a like proclamation, offering the ſame reward for the head of his Britannic majeſty. In other reſpects he behaved with moderation. The clergy of the eſtabliſhed church, who continued to pray for king George, were not perſecuted, and no rigorous meaſures were taken to enforce obedience to the new eſtabliſhment. An order was publiſhed forbidding all outward demonſtrations of joy for the victory of Preſton Pans, and another promiſing protection to all farmers within five miles of Edinburgh, upon their engaging themſelves in the ſecretary's office to be ready in twelve hours warning to furniſh horſes for carrying the baggage of the army from Edinburgh to Berwick. Several other declarations and proclamations,

The rebels beſiege Edinburgh caſtle.

mations, particularly one of indemnity, were iſſued, and the rebels laid their hands upon all the public money they could come at. Geo. II. 1745.

At laſt the contrivance of Gueſt to prevent the march of the rebels ſouthward operated, and all communication between the city and the caſtle was prohibited under pain of death, and a blockade continued for three days, but in an aukward manner. General Gueſt, however, acquainted the magiſtrates of Edinburgh, that he ſhould be obliged to make uſe of his cannon to diſlodge the Highland guards, which ſhut up the communication between the town and the caſtle, and that he had received orders from court to keep the avenues clear. This declaration threatened deſtruction to the town, and produced an application to the young pretender, who wrote to the magiſtrates, with his own hand, the following letter.

"Gentlemen,

"I am not a little ſurprized at the inhumane orders of the commanders of the caſtle of Edinburgh, and which, they ſay, they received from the elector of Hanover. If he looked upon you as his ſubjects, he would never require of you what he knows to be out of your power to grant. It is impoſſible to prevent inconveniencies in caſes of this nature, but I ſhall take care to have all ſufferers indemnified, as ſoon as the public tranquillity is reſtored; and in the mean time ſhall make full reprizals upon the eſtates of all thoſe who are abettors of the German government. The pretender's letter to the magiſtrates.

C. P. R."

This anſwer had very little effect upon the well-diſpoſed citizens, or indeed upon the body of the people in general, who were but barely paſſive under their new maſters. General Gueſt, however, was very averſe from coming to any extremities with the town, tho' he had no reaſon to be ſatisfied with the behaviour of thoſe who had given it up, and ſignified, that in tenderneſs to the inhabitants, he would reſpite the firing for ſix days, till he ſhould receive an order from court how to proceed. Though this reſpite was very agreeable to the inhabitants, yet the rebels availed themſelves of it to raiſe a battery againſt the caſtle, which, however, did very little damage, their guns being diſmounted, and ſome old buildings, behind which they ſheltered themſelves, being demoliſhed by the fire of the beſieged, who likewiſe made ſeveral ſallies, and took ſome priſoners. Progreſs of the ſiege.

The anſwer which came from London, being favourable to the inhabitants, was intercepted by the rebels; and one or two

Geo. II. 1745. two of the townſpeople happening to be killed by ſhot from the caſtle, the following order was publiſhed by the young pretender.

" C. P. R.

A proclamation. " The prince regent taking into conſideration the many murders committed upon the innocent inhabitants of the city of Edinburgh, has, of his innate clemency, the diſtinguiſhed characteriſtic of his family, yielded to the ſupplications of the diſtreſſed; and conſidering that juſtice ought to give place to mercy, when the good of the people require it, he therefore takes the blockade off the caſtle, and commands, upon his part, all hoſtilities to ceaſe."

The rebels prepare to march ſouthward. About the 6th of October, the rebels began to perceive that they had been groſsly impoſed upon, and the blockade, or, as they affected to call it, the ſiege, of the caſtle, was raiſed. The day after, Gordon of Glenbucket and lord Ogilvie, joined the rebels, with a body of about 400 men.

Account of Gordon of Glenbucket. The former was an old gentleman, diſeaſed and palſied in his perſon, but of great ſpirit and courage, and had been embarked in every plot and inſurrection againſt the government ſince the revolution. Having been a kind of rent-gatherer or ſteward to the dukes of Gordon, he had acquired ſome aſcendency over the popiſh part of their tenants; and tho' the duke himſelf was intirely in his majeſty's intereſt, yet he could not prevent their joining in the rebellion, nor his brother, lord Lewis, at that time a midſhipman in the government's ſervice, from embarking with great eagerneſs in the ſame cauſe.

and lord Ogilvie. As to lord Ogilvie, (as he was called) he was the ſon of the titular earl of Airley, and a young gentleman of ſprightly parts; his father being poſſeſſed of a good independent fortune. The rebels, by this time, were about 6000 in number, and they were reſolved to try their fortune ſouthwards by marching into England. As a prelude to this march, ſeveral proclamations were publiſhed by them, requiring ſuch of the inhabitants as did not perſonally join them, to furniſh them with money, arms, horſes, and proviſions. On the 10th of the ſame month, the young pretender publiſhed a freſh declaration, which was ſaid to be of his own compoſing.

Declarations of the pretender. By this declaration, he promiſes, in his father's name, all kind of protection and ſecurity to the proteſtant religion and the eſtabliſhed church, and that he ſhall paſs any law that the parliament ſhould judge neceſſary for that purpoſe.

He next mentions the national debt in the following terms: " In conſequence of our royal father's intentions, we muſt

further

further declare his ſentiments with regard to the national debt. That it has been contracted under an unlawful government, no body can diſown, no more than it is now a moſt heavy load upon the nation; yet, in regard it is due to thoſe very ſubjects whom he promiſes to protect, cheriſh, and defend, he is reſolved to take the advice of his parliament concerning it, in which he thinks he acts the part of a juſt prince, who makes the good of his people the ſole rule of his actions." Geo. II. 1745.

"Furthermore, we have in his name to declare, that the ſame rule laid down for the funds, ſhall be followed with reſpect to every law or act of parliament ſince the revolution, and in ſo far as, in a free and legal parliament, they ſhall be approved, he will confirm them. With reſpect to the pretended union of the two nations, the king cannot poſſibly ratify it, ſince he has had repeated remonſtrances againſt it from each kingdom; and ſince it is inconteſtable that the principal point then in view was the excluſion of the royal family from their undoubted right to the crown, for which purpoſe the groſſeſt corruptions were openly uſed to bring it about. But whatever may be hereafter deviſed for the joint benefit of both nations, the king will moſt readily comply with the requeſt of his parliament to eſtabliſh."

In the remaining part of this new declaration he ſays, "that it was with his own money he hired the veſſel that brought him to Scotland." He then goes upon the miſtaken common place topics, that a little before had been ſo frequent in the mouths of thoſe who oppoſed the government, and had been ſo induſtriouſly propagated from the preſs all over the kingdom; and by the air in which this declaration is penned, it is plain that thoſe diſcontents were his chief dependence. He declares, that his expedition was undertaken without ſupport either from France or Spain; "but, indeed, continues he, when I ſee a foreign force brought by my enemies againſt me, and when I hear of Dutch, Danes, Heſſians, and Swiſs, the elector of Hanover's allies, being called over to protect his government againſt the king's ſubjects, is it not high time for the king my father to accept alſo of the aſſiſtance of thoſe who are able, and who have engaged to ſupport him. But will the world, or any one man of ſenſe in it, infer from thence, that he inclines to be a tributary prince rather than an independent monarch. Who has the better chance to be independent on foreign princes, he who with the aid of his own ſubjects, can wreſt the government out of the hands of an intruder: or he who cannot, without aſſiſtance from abroad, ſupport his government, though eſtabliſhed

Geo. II. 1745. blished by all the civil power, and secured by a sufficient military force, against the undisciplined part of the people misled over so many years. Let him, if he pleases, try this experiment; let him send off his declaration, and put the whole upon the issue of a battle: I will trust only to the arm of my father's subjects, who are, or shall be, engaged in mine and their country's cause. But notwithstanding all the opposition he can make, I still trust in the justice of my cause, the valour of my troops, and the assistance of the Almighty, to bring my enterprize to a glorious issue."

This declaration was far from being of any service to the pretender or his party. The public disbelieved every word that it mentioned concerning the security of religion, and looked upon that part of it as a proof of the young man's insincerity. The doubtful, opprobrious, manner in which he spoke of the national debt, disgusted many of his well-wishers, and turned against him the hearts of almost the whole money'd interest in England. In other parts of this famous declaration, there runs a remarkable vein of insolence, which, as being less material, is not here transcribed.

The rebels march southwards.

On the 22d of October, the rebels had a general review of their troops between Leith and Edinburgh; and having received some money, arms, and ammunition out of four ships sent them from France, and which they found great difficulty in transporting southwards, they prepared in good earnest for their march into England. They had, by this time, been joined by some other noblemen, and particularly by the lord Pitsligo. He was then very aged, having commanded a troop of the rebels in the year 1715. He was a man of some learning, but in his younger days had been deeply tinged with those extravagancies of religion that were so common amongst the Camizars, and other enthusiasts of that time; nor indeed in his riper years did he ever get the better of those religious fits. He was in great reputation with the party for his wisdom, virtue, and experience, and he seemed to be highly esteemed by the young pretender. Another nobleman of little note in the world, joined them about the same time. This was Arthur lord Balmerino. He was a younger son, and his elder brother dying when the rebellion broke out, he inherited the title with little or no fortune. He was a rough, uninformed man; and though during some part of his life he had acted as an officer in the British army, yet he never had been at the pains to disguise his principles, which were those of jacobitism. He has been extolled by the party for the firmness of his demeanor at his death; but it is certain

Characters of the lords Pitsligo,

Balmerino,

tain that he would gladly have accepted of a pardon, and that he applied, on the moſt ſubmiſſive terms, for the ſame. Geo. II. 1745.

Of a very different character was William earl of Kilmarnock, who joined the rebels about this time. Not only his education, but his ſentiments, were proteſtant and whig. He was, till this fatal time, a kind of enthuſiaſt for the cauſe of liberty, and ſtuck in the ſame ſtrain in his moſt retired and unreſerved hours. The education of his ſon, who was then in the king's ſervice, was of the ſame caſt; and nothing but a profligate courſe of life, which ſubjected him to neceſſities, can be urged in excuſe for the part he acted ſo inconſiſtent with his former principles and practice. and Kilmarnock.

His majeſty returns to England.

On the 21ſt of Auguſt his Britannic majeſty arrived in London from his German dominions. The return of three battalions of the foot guards, and ſeven regiments of foot from Flanders, was immediately ordered; and ſoon after the Dutch troops, which conſiſted of the garriſons in the Low Countries, that by their capitulation had been incapacitated from acting againſt the French or their allies, arrived in Great Britain. The city of London preſented loyal addreſſes to his majeſty, congratulating him on the reduction of Cape Breton, and expreſſing their deteſtation of the rebellion. The court of lieutenancy followed their example; but above all, the merchants of London, with true public ſpirit, preſented an addreſs to his majeſty at Kenſington, aſſuring him, that they would continue to exert their utmoſt endeavours for the ſupport of the public credit of the kingdom. In conſequence of this aſſurance, no fewer than 1140 of the moſt eminent merchants, traders, and money'd men in England ſigned an agreement, declaring, that they would not refuſe to receive bank notes in payment of any ſum of money to be paid them, and that they would uſe their utmoſt endeavours to make all their payments in the ſame manner. This agreement was the more neceſſary and ſeaſonable, as the diſaffected and their friends, both abroad and at home, had found means to procure a run upon the bank, which threatened the credit of the public with very diſagreeable conſequences. Loyal addreſſes.

The reſt of England were no way behind the magiſtracy, inhabitants, and public bodies of London, in expreſſions of zeal and loyalty; for addreſſes, too numerous to be particularized, poured in from all quarters. But the zeal of the noblemen in ſupport of his majeſty and the government, was unprecedented. Many of them, together with ſome gentlemen of great fortunes and families, offered their ſervices

Geo. II. 1745. vices in a military capacity. The duke of Montague received a commiſſion for raiſing a regiment of foot in Northamptonſhire, and the duke of Kingſton raiſed another in Nottinghamſhire and Yorkſhire. The dukes of Bedford, Bolton, Ancaſter, the marquis of Caranby, (ſon to the duke of Rutland) the earls of Halifax, Bathurſt, and Cholmondely, the viſcounts Falmouth and Harcourt, the lords Edgecombe, Gower, and Herbert, each of them, raiſed regiments in their reſpective counties where their intereſts lay.

New raiſed regiments.

Aſſociation of Yorkſhire.

As it was expected the rebels, by bending their march ſouthward, would have fallen into Yorkſhire, that county ſet a noble example of loyalty to the reſt of the nation. The archbiſhop of York, at this time, was Dr. Herring; he was afterwards archbiſhop of Canterbury, and he was preferred to both ſtations on account of his moderation. But on this occaſion, his loyalty ſhone equally conſpicuous; for not content with diſcharging the duties of his paſtoral function, he prevailed with the noblemen and gentlemen of the county to meet together at York, and after making them a very ſpirited ſpeech, to enter into the following aſſociation.

Whereas there is now a horrid and unnatural rebellion formed and carried on in Scotland by papiſts and other wicked and traiterous perſons, countenanced and ſupported by the old and inveterate enemies of our country and the religion and liberties thereof, the crowns of France and Spain, in order to dethrone his preſent majeſty king George, the only rightful and lawful king of theſe realms, and having ſubverted our religion, laws, and liberties, (which God forbid) to ſet upon the throne a popiſh pretender, a dependent to thoſe tyrannous and corrupted courts. We the lord archbiſhop of York, lord lieutenants, nobility, deputy lieutenants, juſtices of the peace, clergy, gentlemen, freeholders and others of the county of York, whoſe names are here ſubſcribed to this writing, and every of us, being of opinion, that in times of danger and treaſonable practices as theſe are, an union of our hearts and forces will be moſt conducing to his majeſty's ſafety, and the public good of our country, do voluntarily and willingly bind ourſelves, every one of us to the other, jointly and ſeverally, in the bond of one firm and loyal ſociety, and do hereby promiſe, that with our whole powers, bodies, lives, and eſtates, we, and every of us, will ſtand by and aſſiſt each other in the ſupport and defence of his majeſty's ſacred perſon and government, and will withſtand, offend, and purſue, as well by force of arms, as by all other means, the ſaid popiſh pretender and traytors, and alſo all manner

of

of perſons, of what ſtate ſoever they be, and their abettors, that ſhall attempt, act, counſel or conſent to any thing that ſhall tend to the harm of his majeſty king George, or of his royal highneſs the prince of Wales, or any of their iſſue, or to the ſubverſion of his majeſty's government. And we do by this inſtrument declare, that no one of us ſhall, for any reſpect of perſons or cauſes, or for fee or reward, ſeparate ourſelves from this aſſociation, or fail in the proſecution thereof during our lives. Dated at the caſtle of York the 24th day of September, in the year of our Lord 1745. Geo. II. 1745.

In conſequence of this aſſociation, no leſs than 40,000 l. is ſaid to have been ſubſcribed by the loyal noblemen and gentlemen of that county. A numerous body of forces, both horſe and foot, were likewiſe raiſed, together with a body of volunteers of light cavalry, which ſtiled themſelves the Royal Hunters, and were of excellent uſe in the progreſs of the rebellion. The arrival of his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland from Holland on the 18th of October, helped to enliven the ſpirit of loyalty, which now appeared more ſtrong than ever; for even thoſe counties where the diſaffection was moſt dreaded, ſignalized themſelves by raiſing both men and money in defence of the government.

The opening of the parliament.

His majeſty's ſpeech.

On the 16th of October his majeſty opened the parliament, ſooner, as he told the members, than he intended, in order to take their advice and aſſiſtance in ſuppreſſing and extinguiſhing the rebellion. "I have, (continued he in his ſpeech) throughout the whole courſe of my reign, made the laws of the land the rule of my government, and the preſervation of the conſtitution in church and ſtate, and the rights of my people, the main end and aim of all my actions. It is therefore the more aſtoniſhing, that any of my proteſtant ſubjects, that have known and enjoyed the benefits reſulting from thence, and have heard of the imminent dangers theſe kingdoms were wonderfully delivered from by the happy revolution, ſhould, by any arts and management, be deluded into meaſures that muſt at once deſtroy their religion and liberties, introduce popery and arbitrary power, and ſubject them to a foreign yoke."

"Gentlemen of the houſe of commons,

"I rely upon your affection to me, and your care and concern for our common ſafety, to grant me ſuch a ſupply as may enable me entirely to extinguiſh this rebellion, effectually to diſcourage any foreign power from aſſiſting the rebels, and to reſtore the peace of the kingdom, for which purpoſe I will order the proper eſtimates to be laid before you.

Geo. II. 1745. Amongſt the many ill conſequences of this wicked attempt, the extraordinary burden which it muſt bring upon my faithful ſubjects, very ſenſibly affects me. But let thoſe anſwer for it whoſe treaſon has occaſioned it, and my people be convinced what they owe to thoſe diſturbers of our peace, who are endeavouring to make this kingdom a ſcene of blood and confuſion."

The addreſſes of both houſes to this excellent ſpeech were, as uſual, full of duty and loyalty; but, on this occaſion, of warm indignation againſt the attempts of the rebels. That of the lords in particular ſaid, "that the unanimity and chearfulneſs then expreſſed by the people of England, was greater than ever had been before known, unleſs at the happy revolution wrought by king William III." The addreſs of the commons was in the ſame ſtrain, and promiſed his majeſty effectual ſupplies.

A camp formed at Newcaſtle.

The troops from Flanders and Holland being now arrived, (the latter with count Maurice of Naſſau at their head) together with ſome regiments from Ireland, the nation began to recover from its conſternation, and it was reſolved, that a camp ſhould be formed in the north of England, under marſhal Wade, at Newcaſtle, conſiſting of 14,000 men, and compoſed of the marſhal's own regiment of horſe, the queen's own regiment, commanded by the duke of Montague, St. George's dragoons, and the Yorkſhire royal hunters, all cavalry; Howard's, Barrel's, Wolfe's, Pulteny's, Blakeney's, Cholmondeley's, Fleming's, Monroe's, Batterteau's regiments, with the ſecond battalion of the royal Scots; and the Dutch regiments of Holſtein Gottorp, Villates, Brackel, Paitot, de la Roque, with three battalions of Swiſs, all infantry. The general officers commanding under the marſhal were count Maurice of Naſſau; the lieutenant generals lord Tyrawley and Wentworth; the major generals Oglethorpe, Howard, and Huſk, with the brigadier generals Mordaunt and Cholmondeley. The garriſon of Berwick was reinforced by general Handaſyde, with eight companies of Price's foot, and five of Ligonier's lay at Holy Iſland. Mean while, Wade's army being compleatly aſſembled at Newcaſtle, he had orders to make that place the greateſt object of his concern, on account of the coal mines, the ſeizing of which by the rebels muſt have greatly diſtreſſed London itſelf, not to mention many other dreadful conſequences. This was the true reaſon why this army was of very little ſervice to the nation. On the 30th of October, the marſhal publiſhed the following offer of pardon to the rebels.

"Whereas

"Whereas it hath been repreſented to his majeſty, that ſe- Geo. II.
veral of his ſubjects inhabiting the Highlands of Scotland, and 1745.
others, have been ſeduced by menaces and threatnings of
their chiefs and ſuperiors, to take arms, and enter into a moſt unnatural rebellion; his majeſty hath authorized me to aſſure all ſuch who ſhall return to their habitations on or before the 12th day of November next, and become faithful to his majeſty and his government, that they ſhall be objects of his majeſty's clemency; but if after this his moſt gracious intention being ſignified, they ſhall continue in their rebellion, they will be proceeded againſt with rigour ſuitable to the nature of their crime."

Wade offers a pardon to the rebels.

The publication of this offer of pardon ſerved only to encreaſe the confidence of the rebels, which, upon their march from Edinburgh, roſe to an amazing height. They ſpoke of the royal forces as being the gleanings of an unfortunate campaign in Flanders, and of the battle of Preſton Pans in Scotland. They proceeded, however, with great ſecreſy, and by their firſt diſpoſitions deceived the king's troops, who imagined they intended to enter England by Berwick. Upon which, general Wade gave orders for his army to march to defend that town, and fight the rebels, who made a ſudden turn weſtward in three diviſions. One, led by the young pretender himſelf, marched by Peebles; another, commanded by the duke of Perth, marched through Lauderdale; and another, which was compoſed moſtly of cavalry, marched by Kelſo. The whole having orders to rendezvous near Carliſle.

CHAP. VII.

Carliſle ſurrendered to the rebels—They march ſouthward into England—Oppoſed by Wade—The rebels reach Derby—Preparations againſt them—The duke of Cumberland and general Oglethorpe purſue them in their retreat from Derby—The ſkirmiſh at Clifton—The duke takes Carliſle—The rebels eſcape to Scotland—They oppreſs that country, and march to beſiege Sterling—Hiſtory and character of lord Lovat—Lord Lewis Gordon defeats the loyal clans—The Fox man of war loſt, and the Hazard ſloop ſurprized by the rebels—The ſiege of Sterling formed by them—The battle of Falkirk—The ſiege of Sterling reſumed—The duke appointed to command againſt the rebels—He arrives in Scotland, and marches the army againſt them—Their precipitate flight northward to Inverneſs—The arrival of the Heſſians—Various operations in the North—The duke paſſes the Spey without oppoſition—The rebels totally defeated at Culloden—The rebellion entirely ſuppreſt.

Geo. II. 1745.

Part of the rebels march into England.

THE whole of the rebels who marched towards England, was ſaid to be about 6000 foot and 260 horſe. They had, however, ſent out many parties for the purpoſes of plundering and contributions, ſome of them as far as Glaſgow; and they had been induſtrious enough to procure upwards of 150 carts and waggons for carrying their baggage, beſides a great number of baggage-horſes, with a ſmall train of artillery, and ſome engineers who had been landed from France, but, as appeared afterwards, of great inſufficiency. The duke of Perth commanded as general in chief, and lord George Murray as lieutenant general. Lord Elcho was made colonel of what they called the life guards, lord Kilmarnock acted as colonel of huſſars, and lord Pitſligo as colonel of the Perthſhire and Angus horſe. As to the clans, who were incomparably their beſt men, they were regimented under their ſeveral leaders, and the flower of them kept about the young pretender's perſon. Upon their leaving the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, general Gueſt ſallied out, and took a large quantity of bread that had been deſigned for their uſe; and before they reached the borders of England, many of

of them deſerted; others were cut off and made priſoners by the well-affected inhabitants of the country, and they loſt above 34 of their waggons by the ſame means. In the north and the weſt, their affairs bore a very indifferent aſpect; lord Loudon was at Inverneſs with a good body of men; the people of Sutherland and the Monro's were in arms for the government, and 700 of the Macleans had been attacked, diſarmed, and diſperſed, by lieutenant colonel Campbell, in their march to join the main body of rebels, while general Blakeney, with the garriſon of Sterling Caſtle, intercepted part of a large convoy that had landed in the North, and was going ſouthward. Geo. II. 1745.

But while things wore thus a good aſpect for the government, the hopes of the public were daſhed, when it was known, that the rebels, after a variety of marches, had rendezvouſed in the neighbourhood of Carliſle, about the 8th of November; and that, on the 10th, the young pretender had ſent one Geohegan, an Iriſhman, but in the French ſervice, with the following ſummons, directed to the mayor of Carliſle.

Carliſle ſummoned.

Charles prince of Wales, regent of the kingdoms of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging.

"Being come to recover the king our father's juſt rights, for which we are arrived with all his authority, we are ſorry to find you ſhould prepare to obſtruct our paſſage. We therefore, to avoid the effuſion of Engliſh blood, hereby require you to open your gates, and let us enter, as we deſire, in a peaceable manner; which if you do, we ſhall take care to preſerve you from any inſult, and ſet an example to all England, fulfill the king our father's declarations and our own. But if you ſhall refuſe us entrance, we are fully reſolved to force it by ſuch means as providence has put into our hands, and then, perhaps, it will not be in our power to prevent the fatal conſequences which uſually attend a town's being taken by aſſault. Conſider ſeriouſly of this, and let me have your anſwer within the ſpace of two hours; for we ſhall take any further delay as a peremptory refuſal, and take our meaſures accordingly. November 10, 1745."

The proceedings of Wade upon this occaſion were as uſual, wavering and dilatory. He had ſent general Handaſyde to Edinburgh, with two regiments of foot and two of horſe, to protect that city, and ſuch of the king's friends as had returned to it, upon the march of the rebels ſouthward. The ſeaſon was ſevere, and his troops diſcouraged; but as they had greatly the ſuperiority of the rebels in every reſpect, Wade had

Geo. II. 1745. had orders, by all means, to march acroſs the country from Newcaſtle, and to attempt to fight the rebels, or to ſave Carliſle from falling into their hands. The rebels having intelligence of his motions, and well knowing the difficulties he had to encounter in his march, prepared to meet him, and for that purpoſe, leaving Carliſle at their backs, they marched forwards to Brampton, about eight miles eaſtward upon the road towards Wade, who with great difficulty, upon the 17th of November, had advanced with his army as far as Hexham in queſt of the rebels. There he found it was impracticable to go forward, through the badneſs of the roads and the ſeverity of the weather, the ground being covered with ſnow. The rebels, who knew his ſituation, and that they were ſecure from any attack from that quarter, reſolved to return and form the ſiege of Carliſle, no regard having been paid to their ſummons, and the cannon being kept continually playing both from the town and the caſtle upon their detach'd parties. The care of the ſiege was allotted to Perth, who gave orders for preparing ſcaling laders, and cutting down faſcines in the neighbouring woods and parks, and worked himſelf upon the trenches in his ſhirt, as a common engineer.

The city of Carliſle was defended by the inhabitants, under Patterſon, their mayor, aſſiſted by the militia of the counties of Cumberland and Weſtmorland, to the number of about 700; and colonel Durand, an officer of experience, commanded in the caſtle, which was garriſoned with invalids and part of the ſame militia. The city was attacked in three places at once, and the inhabitants of the neighbouring country were obliged by the rebels to aſſiſt at the ſiege with horſes, carriages, and their own labour. The beſiegers being favoured with a thick miſt, made their approaches ſo near the city, that when the miſt cleared up the inhabitants were ſtruck with conſternation, and the rebels giving out they would put them all to the ſword if they carried the town by aſſault, a conſultation was held, at which colonel Durand was preſent, and a reſolution was taken to deliver up the city. Durand proteſted againſt this; but the inhabitants, on the other hand, urged, that they had held out the place for ſeven days; that they were exhauſted with fatigue; that the militia were daily deſerting, by getting over the walls, and that they were determined to hold out no longer. Upon this, a white flag was hung out, and Durand, with about 400 of the militia and invalids, ſhut himſelf up in the caſtle.

The city ſurrendered to the rebels.

Upon the appearance of the white flag, the rebels ceaſed hoſtilities, and deputies from the city demanded to know what

what terms they were to expect. The young pretender, who ſtill continued at Brampton, inſiſted upon the ſurrender of the caſtle as well as the town; and the garriſon, by a ſhameful deſertion, being reduced to about 80 invalids, and thoſe, for the moſt part, unable to do duty, Durand was compelled to give up the caſtle, for which he was afterwards honourably acquitted by a court martial. The terms were, "That the town ſhould be ſafe, and that the garriſon might retire where they pleaſed; but that all the proviſion, ammunition and arms, ſhould be delivered up, in the caſe they were, to the rebels." Theſe terms being complied with, Perth took poſſeſſion of the city, and made the garriſon ſwear never to carry arms again againſt the family of Stewart. But he could prevail with few or none of them to enliſt with him, though he offered them conſiderable encouragement. He then obliged the mayor and the aldermen to proclaim the pretender, and to read his proclamations in the market-place. In the town and city were found effects, arms, and ammunition, which were all of great ſervice to the rebels, who now collected all the public money, and laid the country under contribution. Geo. II. 1745.

The taking of the town and caſtle of Carliſle by ſuch a rabble as the rebels were then accounted to be gave freſh indignation to the friends of the government. The declarations of the two pretenders, father and ſon, were, by order of the parliament, burnt by the common hangman at the Royal Exchange in London, and they were voted by both houſes, "falſe, ſcandalous, and traiterous libels; intended to poiſon the minds of his majeſty's ſubjects; containing the moſt malicious, audacious, and wicked incitements to them to commit the moſt abominable treaſons; groundleſs and infamous calumnies and indignities againſt the government, crown, and ſacred perſon of his majeſty king George the Second, our only rightful and undoubted ſovereign; and ſeditious and preſumptuous declarations againſt the conſtitution of this united kingdom; repreſenting the high court of parliament, now legally aſſembled by his majeſty's authority, as an unlawful aſſembly, and all the acts of parliament paſſed ſince the happy revolution, as null and void; and that the ſaid printed papers are full of the utmoſt arrogance, and inſolent affronts to the honour of the Britiſh nation, in ſuppoſing that his majeſty's ſubjects are capable of being impoſed upon, ſeduced or terrified by falſe and opprobrious invectives, inſidious promiſes, or vain and impotent menaces, or be deluded to exchange the free enjoyment of their rights and liberties, as well civil Pretender's declarations burnt at London.

Geo. II. 1745. as religious, under the well eſtabliſhed government of a proteſtant prince, for popery and ſlavery, under a popiſh bigotted pretender, long ſince excluded by the wiſeſt laws made to ſecure our excellent conſtitution, and abjured by the moſt ſolemn oaths."

But neither the manifeſtos of the rebels, nor the progreſs of their arms, were ſo alarming as were the preparations which, at this time, were making in France for ſupporting the rebellion in England. To diſappoint them, admiral Vernon was ordered to take the command of a ſquadron in the channel, and admiral Byng was ſtationed on the eaſtern coaſt of Scotland. It was generally allowed, that the force which Vernon had for that ſervice, was unequal to the importance of it. But Vernon behaved with ſo much vigilance, that not only a great number of the French tranſports, with ammunition, men and money, bound for Scotland, were intercepted, but the main deſign of the French was diſconcerted. They had propoſed to run over in tranſports and large boats, to the neareſt coaſt of England from Calais and Dunkirk, and to make themſelves maſter of Dover and its caſtle. This expedition was to have been commanded by the late earl marſhal of Scotland. But Vernon's ſhips were ſo well poſted, that the French officers of marines refuſed to venture out; upon which the earl marſhal was ſo diſguſted, that he threw up his command. In the mean while, a French ſhip, with about 30 officers and 140 ſoldiers, and all proper accoutrements, was taken. The ſoldiers were to have been commanded by Charles Ratcliff, who was likewiſe taken on board the ſame ſhip. He was brother to the unfortunate earl of Derwentwater, who was beheaded for being in the rebellion of the year 1715. This Charles, at the ſame time, was condemned to die, but having made his eſcape out of Newgate, he had continued abroad ever ſince; and the elder ſon of his brother being dead, he had himſelf aſſumed the title of Derwentwater: with him was taken his eldeſt ſon, and both of them were ſent priſoners to the Tower of London. Soon after this another French ſhip, with about 20 officers and 210 ſoldiers was likewiſe taken; but notwithſtanding all Vernon's and the government's vigilance ſome companies of lord John Drummond's (brother to Perth) regiment, and ſome Iriſh in French pay landed in Scotland.

Admiral Vernon appointed to command in the channel.

Deſigns of the French.

Upon this the king ſent the following meſſage to the parliament, "That his majeſty having received undoubted intelligence that preparations were making at Dunkirk and other ports in France, which were then in great forwardneſs

His meſſage to parliament.

for

for invading Britain, with a conſiderable number of forces in ſupport of the rebellion, and ſome French troops being actually landed in Scotland; his majeſty thought it proper to acquaint the houſe of commons with an event of ſuch high importance to his crown, and to the peace and ſecurity of his kingdoms: informing them, that he judged it neceſſary to direct the 6000 Heſſians in Britiſh pay, to be brought into the kingdom, the more effectually to repel the invaſion and ſuppreſs the rebellion; doubting not but his faithful commons would concur in all ſuch meaſures as ſhould be neceſſary for diſappointing and defeating ſo dangerous an attempt." Geo. II. 1745.

Supplies granted by parliament.

This meſſage was received with proper deference by the houſe of commons: they voted 40,000 ſeamen, and 49,299 land forces, for the ſervice of the current year, and pay for the thirteen new regiments of foot, and two regiments of horſe, raiſed by the noblemen, for 122 days, together with 206,252 l. 15 s. for the pay of 11,550 marines. As to foreign ſervices, they voted 161,607 l for the charge of the Heſſians, with the ſubſidy; 200,000 l. for the ſubſidy to the king of Sardinia, and 100,000 l. to enable him to proſecute the war in Italy. A ſubſidy of 24,299 l. was voted to the elector of Cologn, 8,620 l. to the elector of Mentz, and 400,000 l. to the queen of Hungary, to enable her to maintain 50 000 men in the Low Countries. Three hundred thouſand pounds was granted for defraying the expence of 18,000 Hanoverian troops, being 5000 horſe, and 13,000 foot, to act in the Low Countries; 21,545 l. 19 s. and 11 d. was granted for the charges of the 6,000 Dutch forces in England, 10,000 l. for the Hanoverian artillery, and 500,000 l. in a vote of credit to his majeſty. All other branches of public ſervice were equally well provided for, and raiſed with a readineſs, hardly to be matched in times of the greateſt tranquillity; and the whole of the ſupplies this year amounted to the ſum of 7,063,251 l. 18 s. 10 d. [1]. The manner in which this immenſe ſum was raiſed, muſt not be omitted here, becauſe it demonſtrates the prodigious confidence the people had in his majeſty's government, at a time when its enemies were employing all their arts to ſhake the credit of the public.

Ways and means for raiſing the ſupply for 1746.

Nov. 6, 1745.	Four ſhillings in the pound land-tax,	l. 2,000000	0 0
	The duties on malt, mum, cyder and perry, continued —	750,000	0 0

Geo. II. 1745.

		l.
	To be raiſed by annuities, 2,500,000l. and by lottery, 500,000 l. and to be charged on the additional duties on glaſs and ſpirituous liquors,	3,000,000 0 0
May 12.	From the ſinking fund and its growing produce, ——	100,000 0 0
	To be raiſed by loans, or exchequer-bills, and chargeable upon the firſt aids next ſeſſion of parliament,	500,000 0 0
		7,250,000 0 0

Great loyalty of the city of London and the public companies,

Private perſons and companies were equally generous for the ſupport of the public. At a court of lord-mayor and common-council, it was unanimouſly agreed, to ſubſcribe 1000 l. out of the chamber of London, towards the relief, ſupport, and encouragement of ſuch ſoldiers, as now are, or ſhall hereafter be employed in his majeſty's ſervice during the winter ſeaſon, towards the ſuppreſſing of the preſent unnatural rebellion. The company of ſtationers, coopers, drapers, goldſmiths, and other companies, paid ſeveral ſums into the chamber of London, from 100 l. to 500 l. for the ſame good purpoſe. The lord chief juſtice Lee, the maſter of the rolls, and the judges, ſubſcribed 1200 l. into the chamberlain's office, on the ſame account; and other ſocieties ſubſcribed their reſpective ſums. In purſuance of this laudable ſcheme, the committee of the Guildhall-ſubſcription ſoon after contracted for 12,000 pair of breeches, 12,000 ſhirts, 10,000 woollen caps, 10,000 pair of woollen ſtockings, 1,000 blankets, 12,000 pair of woollen gloves, and 9,000 pair of woollen ſpatterdaſhes, to be immediately provided for the army. Neither muſt the benefaction of the quakers, upon this occaſion, be forgotten; for they ſent down 10,000 woollen waiſtcoats for the uſe of the ſoldiers in that ſevere ſeaſon: and beſides theſe, a great number of other ſubſcriptions, too numerous to be recounted here, went on through every part of the kingdom.

and of the quakers.

The law aſſociation.

Amongſt the numerous aſſociations, formed at this time, in defence of his majeſty and the conſtitution, that of the lawyers, was, perhaps, the moſt remarkable; for, at a meeting in the Middle-Temple-Hall, all the perſons of diſtinction belonging to that profeſſion agreed to an aſſociation, and to form themſelves into a regiment, under the command of the lord chief juſtice Willes, for the defence of the royal family, in ſuch manner as his majeſty ſhall think proper, within the cities of London and Weſtminſter, to be denominated the aſſo-

aſſociated regiment of the law, for the defence of the royal family, and the preſervation of the conſtitution in church and ſtate. In conſequence of this aſſociation, the lord chancellor, the maſter of the rolls, the twelve judges, the attorney and ſolicitor-general, the king's ſerjeants and council, with the benchers and barriſters of the ſeveral ſocieties of the law, proceeded in about 200 coaches from Weſtminſter-hall to St. James's palace, where they preſented to his majeſty an addreſs and their aſſociation, and were received with particular marks of regard, there being no precedent of ſuch a compliment paid to any former king of England. Geo II. 1745.

In the mean while, a proclamation was iſſued, for apprehending and bringing to trial, all jeſuits and popiſh prieſts, natural born ſubjects of his majeſty, who ſhould be found in, or within ten miles of the cities of London or Weſtminſter, with a reward of one hundred pounds for each, upon conviction. Another proclamation was iſſued out, (upon intelligence that preparations were making to invade this kingdom) ſtrictly charging and commanding the wardens of the cinque-ports, the lieutenants, and deputy-lieutenants of the ſeveral counties, and all ſheriffs, juſtices of the peace, mayors, bailiffs, and all and every other officers and miniſters, civil and military, within their reſpective counties, cities, towns, and diviſions, that they cauſe the coaſts to be carefully watched, and upon the firſt approach of the enemy, immediately to cauſe all horſes, oxen, which may be fit for draught or burthen, and actually employed in his majeſty's ſervice, or in the defence of the country, (and alſo, as far as may be practicable, all other cattle and proviſions) to be driven and removed twenty miles at leaſt from the place where the enemy ſhall attempt, or appear to intend to land, and to ſecure the ſame, ſo as they may not fall into the hands or power of any of our enemies; and all perſons were commanded to be aiding and aſſiſting in the execution of his majeſty's royal command. Proclamation againſt popiſh prieſts, and for guarding the coaſts.

About the ſame time, the Dover privateers took ſome more French tranſports with troops on board, and offered voluntarily to receive and follow inſtructions from admiral Vernon, for the defence of the kingdom. The militia of the maritime counties, of London, and the Tower Hamlets were raiſed, and the proper ſignals fixed, by firing of guns, or otherwiſe for giving alarms, in caſe the threatened invaſion ſhould take place. The militia raiſed.

The progreſs of the rebellion, after the rebels became maſters of Carliſle, and the continuation of the preparations Progreſs of the rebels.

Geo. II. 1745. made in the ports of France for an invaſion, ſeemed to juſtify all thoſe, and many other, precautions taken at this time, for the public ſafety. The rebels left in Carliſle a garriſon of about two hundred men, under one Hamilton, who had been an under-agent to the duke of Gordon's family; and immediately they marched to Penrith, and from thence to Lancaſter and Burton, which they entered upon the 24th. They then proceeded to Preſton, and on the 28th of November, their whole army took poſſeſſion of Mancheſter. At Mancheſter they beat up for volunteers, to whom they promiſed five guineas each man, upon their arrival at St. James's, and they continued to collect the public money. When they came there, they thought themſelves in the heart of their Engliſh intereſt. But they were miſerably diſappointed. They were ſcarcely able to raiſe even a ſingle company, not above fourſcore having joined them, which were afterwards incorporated into one body, under the pompous appellation of the Mancheſter regiment, and commanded by Mr. Townly, a gentleman of ſome family in that neighbourhood, and who had ſerved ſome time before in the French army.

The rebels arrive at Mancheſter.

All the diſſimulation of the young pretender could not prevent his being viſibly affected with his diſappointment at Mancheſter, where he had been made to believe that half of England would have flocked to his ſtandard. By this time, his majeſty had ordered another army to be formed, conſiſting of three regiments of horſe, three of dragoons, and fifteen of foot, which was to be commanded by the duke of Cumberland, with ſir John Ligonier under him. This army was afterwards augmented to the number of about thirteen thouſand, and took poſt at Litchfield, as being moſt proper for intercepting the rebels in their march ſouthward. At the ſame time, general Wade, whoſe army had returned in a very fatigued condition from Hexham to Newcaſtle, was advancing through Yorkſhire into Lancaſhire, but he was ſo dilatory, and ineffectual in his motions, that his army was of no manner of ſervice to the common cauſe.

Conſultation amongſt the rebels.

The moſt ſenſible amongſt the rebels ſeeing now all their hopes in England vaniſhed, held a ſerious conſultation, in what manner they ſhould proceed; and it was generally agreed, that they ſhould ſtrike off to the left, and endeavour to make ſure of Cheſter and Liverpool, and thereby open themſelves a door into Wales, where they expected a great number of friends. But they ſoon underſtood that Cheſter was, by the vigilance of the earl of Cholmondely, properly protected, and that the inhabitants of Liverpool had not only

only ſecured their moſt valuable effects, but that their magi- Geo. II.
ſtracy was reſolved to defend the place to the utmoſt, for 1745.
which they received a letter of thanks from his royal high-
neſs the duke, while he lay at Litchfield. All thoſe diſcou-
ragements were greatly increaſed by underſtanding that the
bridges, neceſſary for them to paſs, had been broken down,
by order of his royal highneſs. They concealed, however,
their perplexities on this occaſion, and by dividing their forces,
and making different feints, ſometimes towards Warrington,
and ſometimes towards Stockport, and part of them croſſing
the Merſey, they amuſed the king's forces, who, by this
time, had their advanced poſts at Newcaſtle under Line, ſo
that they could come to no determined reſolution, as to the
rout they ſhould take. The main body of the rebels,
however, leaving Stockport upon the right, and Warrington
upon the left, while their detached parties took different
routs, marched to Macclesfield, where their neighbourhood
to the duke's army ſeemed to render an engagement inevi-
table. From Macclesfield they came to Congleton, and his Their mo-
royal highneſs ordered, if they ſhould proceed further on tions.
that road, that his advanced guard at Newcaſtle under Line,
ſhould be alert, and that the two battalions of infantry ſhould
retire to Stone, which is about half way between Newcaſtle
and Stafford, and where they were to be joined by the duke
himſelf, on the morning of the 3d of December, with the
whole army. The rebels, however, finding themſelves in
no condition to fight the duke's army, and that it was im-
practicable to puſh their march into Wales, took the ſudden,
and, indeed, the unexpected, reſolution, of marching from
Congleton to Leeke, and from thence by Aſhburne to Derby,
at which place they arrived on the 5th of December. Upon and thoſe
intelligence of this, his royal highneſs marched from Stone the duke.
to Litchfield, and from thence to Coventry, while marſhal
Wade's army advanced to Doncaſter, ſo as that the rebels
at Derby might be hemmed in on all ſides.

When the young pretender arrived at Derby, his army The rebels
was in want of almoſt every thing. It is not therefore ſur- arrive at
priſing, that they made free with the effects and cloaths of Derby.
ſome of the inhabitants, as well as with the public money,
and that they eat and drank at free coſt. Hitherto, however,
they had been guilty of few barbarities, or indeed exceſſes,
but they now found themſelves at the period both of their
hopes and their incurſion. The young pretender took up
his lodgings at the earl of Exeter's houſe, and ordered a
council

Geo. II. 1745. council of war, consisting of all the heads of his party, to be called. The subject of their deliberation was, whether they should return back by the same rout in which they had advanced, or march forward for London. The young pretender himself was of opinion for the latter, as was Perth and Lochiel, and lord George Murray, but they could not answer for their men; and the other heads of their clans were almost unanimous for marching back. The obstinacy of the young pretender, however, got such a party to join his opinion, that disputes ran very high. He pretended he had certain intelligence from France, that a landing would be effected in England, which would divide the royal troops that lay near London, so as to give them an easy admission into the capital, where he doubted not he should be joined by many friends.

and resolve to march back.

A camp at Finchley proposed.

Upon its being known at London that the rebels had it in their power to advance southward, notwithstanding all the duke's vigilance and activity, some very serious consultations were held at St. James's, and it was even proposed, that the standard of England should be erected upon Finchley Common, for assembling an army, to be commanded by his majesty himself, with field-marshal Stair under him: that all the regular troops about London, with the associated regiments, the trained bands and the militia, should march to the same camp, and that a numerous train of artillery should be drawn out of the Tower of London for its use. The rebels at Derby, by means of their friends in London, had intelligence of all this, and it determined them to return back to Scotland, where they understood that their affairs had taken a very favourable turn.

The rebels march back.

Accordingly, after staying one night at Derby, they set out northward on the 6th of December, and though Wade had been for some time at Doncaster with his army, by which he was considerably nearer Manchester than the rebels were, yet they retreated with such amazing rapidity through Ashburne, Lecke, Manchester, Leigh and Wigton, that they had almost reached Preston before Wade had advanced to Wakefield. His royal highness the duke on this occasion did all that could be expected of a brave and an active general, but the designs of the rebels were so impenetrable, that he had a very difficult task to manage. For, the rebels having again made a motion towards Wales, it was of the greatest importance to prevent their penetrating into that country. A detachment, consisting of the Liverpool battalion, was ordered to take post at Warrington, while another

They are pursued by the duke,

another detachment, of about 1000 men, with all the militia that could be got together, were ſent to Newcaſtle under Line, to maintain that poſt, if the rebels ſhould attempt it, before the duke could come up. His royal highneſs, who lay at Meredin Common, near Coventry, put himſelf at the head of all the horſe and dragoons and a thouſand volunteers of his army, and immediately ſet out in queſt of the rebels; and that ſame day ſir John Ligonier marched to Litchfield with a brigade of the guards and Semple's regiment of foot. The deſign of his royal highneſs was, if poſſible, to ſtop the rebels till his foot ſhould come up. With this intention, he diſpatched expreſſes all over the country, to the militia and friends of the government, to do all they poſſibly could to impede their march. It is incredible with how much unanimity and alacrity the people of all ranks and degrees ſeconded the efforts of his royal highneſs. The gentlemen and inhabitants of Staffordſhire furniſhed the foot ſoldiers with horſes, and on the 10th of December, the duke having marched from Litchfield to Macclesfield in two days, was followed, within an hour's march, by a thouſand mounted foot, and by the duke of Richmond, with the remainder of the cavalry. Geo. II. 1745.

In the mean while, Wade, who lay at Wakefield, ſtill deliberating and inactive, loſt about four days march of the rebels, but ſent a detachment of cavalry, under general Oglethorpe, to purſue them with all poſſible expedition, while he himſelf was to march with the infantry and the reſt of his army back to Newcaſtle upon Tyne. Oglethorpe, accordingly, marched at the head of a thouſand horſe, compoſed of St. George's dragoons, and Montague's and Wade's horſe, but was ſtill ſo unlucky, that he could not come up with the enemy, notwithſtanding he made very long marches, no leſs than an hundred miles in three days, over froſt and ſnow. On the 13th, the rebels left Preſton, where they had reſted a whole day, in a prodigious hurry, and his royal highneſs, who was by this time joined by Oglethorpe's detachment, entered Preſton about four hours after. On the 14th, general Oglethorpe, who ſtill continued the purſuit, was at Garſtang, with orders, that night, to advance with his whole corps, and poſt his regulars on Elhilmoore, about three miles ſouth of Lancaſter, to which the rebels had marched. The regulars were to be detached in ſmall patroles to attack the rebels in the rear, while the general was to be ſupported by major Wheatley, who was poſted at Garſtang, and who was to be ſupported by the main body of and by general Oglethorpe. London Gazette.

Geo. II. 1745. of the army, which was ſtill at Preſton, and the Liverpool battalion, that had been poſted at Warrington, was ordered to Preſton likewiſe. On the 25th, the rebels left Lancaſter, and Oglethorpe's horſe almoſt at the ſame time entered the other end of the town, but were, by their long marches, in ſo wretched a condition, that they could not proceed. He received orders, however, from his royal highneſs, to continue the purſuit beyond Lancaſter, while he was to be followed by the whole army. But this, though attempted by the general, was found ineffectual, on account of the diſtreſſed condition of his cavalry, and the rapid motions of the rebels. The latter, all this time, were terribly harraſſed in their rear by parties of the country people, and by ſuch of Oglethorpe's cavalry, as were in a tolerable condition to purſue them; and at ſeveral places, particularly at Kendal, the inhabitants roſe upon their advanced parties, and ſome blood was ſhed on both ſides. Perth, who had been ſent on before with a party of the horſe, found the country all round him ſo much alarmed, that he could not proceed; and the town of Kendal, into which the main body of the rebels entered on the 16th, might have felt their reſentment more ſeverely than it did, had it not been for the duke's inceſſant purſuit, which obliged them, with their uſual precipitation, to continue their retreat to Shap, where they lay all night, but without Oglethorpe's being able to overtake them. On the 18th of December, however, his royal highneſs in perſon came up with his cavalry to the rear of the rebel army, which conſiſted of the M'Phersons, and who having abandoned Lowther-hall, threw themſelves into the village of Clifton, with a ſhew as if they intended to defend it, while their main body, who believed the whole army to be along with the duke, continued their retreat to Carliſle.

Skirmiſh at Clifton.

Nothing can give the reader a ſtronger idea of the deteſtation in which the rebels were held in all the countries they marched through, than by reflecting that they had not the ſmalleſt intelligence of the king's troops until they were in view. The M'Phersons, who were reckoned the moſt deſperate of all the clans, were commanded in chief by lord George Murray, who obſerving when his royal highneſs appeared, that he had only horſe with him, ſent an expreſs after the main body of the rebels, to deſire them to return, and to ſtand an engagement; but no regard was had to his meſſage. Notwithſtanding this, he prepared to defend the paſs, and had actually taken the advantage of a ditch and ſome hedges, when his royal highneſs ordered his dragoons to

to diſmount and attack the rebels, which they did with great courage. *But after the diſcharge of ſome platoons, the rebels being very advantageouſly poſted behind their ditch and the hedges,* returned their fire, and the dragoons were obliged to retire a few paces to charge again. The rebels interpreted this to be a flight, and leaving their defencible ſituation, ruſhed upon the king's forces, and maintained a very deſperate engagement for about an hour, when they retired again behind their ditch, and being favoured by a very dark night, they continued their march to their main body at Penrith. In this ſkirmiſh, few of the rebels were killed, but about ſeventy of them were taken priſoners. The king's forces had about forty killed and wounded, and amongſt the latter four officers, lieutenant-colonel Honeywood, captain Eaſt, and two cornets, Owen and Hamilton. Geo. II. 1745.

The darkneſs of the night, the cloſeneſs of the country, and the prodigious fatigues the king's troops had ſuffered, favoured the eſcape of the rear guard of the rebels to their main body at Penrith, where they held a council of war, in which it was propoſed, to return with their whole force, and ſurprize the duke's cavalry. This propoſition was very ſtrongly ſupported, particularly by Roy Stuart, who, though he always oppoſed the Iriſh counſellors, was now amongſt the moſt active and daring of all the rebel officers. Being poſted in the rear, he had an opportunity of ſeeing that his royal highneſs had only cavalry with him, and he was joined in his opinion by ſome of the moſt forward of the clans. But lord George Murray and others of their leaders urged the favourable turn their affairs had taken in Scotland, as a motive for their ſparing their men as much as they could, till their whole force was united; and obſerved, it was very poſſible, that before they could make the attack, the duke might be joined by the reſt of his army. Thoſe reaſons prevailed; and, next day, the whole body of the rebels marched for Carliſle, where they drew up in the Muir, near that city, as if they intended to ſtand a battle; but underſtanding that the duke had been reinforced by a detachment of 1000 foot, and 50 horſe, from Wade's army, which was then at Newcaſtle, they took a reſolution to paſs the Eden, and to leave a garriſon in Carliſle. This reſolution was inſtantly put in execution, and the young pretender, who made no ſecret of his being highly diſguſted with the Engliſh, ordered Townly, with his Mancheſter regiment, which did not yet in the whole exceed fourſcore men, to remain in the place, under Hamilton, who had not with him in the whole above three hundred men. Conſultation of the rebels at Penrith.

who deſigns for Scotland,

Geo. II. 1745.

men. They then croſſed the Eden; their cavalry on horſeback, and their infantry, by linking themſelves in one another's arms, waded through, and all without any loſs.

Carliſle beſieged by the duke, London Gazette.

His royal highneſs, after the action of Cliſton, found it abſolutely neceſſary to give his troops ſome reſpite, and it was the 21ſt of December before they came in ſight of Carliſle. He was now joined by his whole army, which advanced in three columns, and orders were ſent to bring up ſome heavy artillery from Whitehaven. Before theſe could come to Carliſle, major general Bland had inveſted it on the Scotch ſide with St. George's dragoons, and three hundred men of Bligh's regiment, with orders to prevent any paſſage over the bridge upon the river Eden, which leads directly to the Scotch gate: major Adams, with two hundred men, was poſted in the ſuburbs of the Engliſh gate, to prevent any of the garriſon eſcaping that way: major Merric, at the Iriſh gate, with the ſame orders, and ſir Andrew Agnew, at the ſally port, with three hundred. All the horſe and foot guards were cantoned round the town, at a mile or two diſtance. The rebels, who were left, made a ſhew of intending to defend the place, firing their cannon upon every body who appeared in ſight of it. It was the 24th of December before any of the cannon arrived from Whitehaven, and then only four pieces; but upon the 28th, his royal highneſs having received ſix more, he began to batter the town, where Townly commanded, who ſoon retired into the caſtle, where a council of war was held, to deliberate about giving up the place. It is certain that the rebels, though they fired inceſſantly upon the king's forces, were very ill ſerved with engineers, or officers of any kind. Townly, who was a man of courage, and the officers under him, propoſed in the council of war, as the garriſon, particularly the Engliſh part of it, had a very ſmall proſpect of obtaining the royal mercy, that the wiſeſt, as well as the braveſt, thing they could do, would be for the garriſon to unite in a body, and to endeavour to cut their way through the weakeſt quarter of the king's troops, and to paſs the Eden; and he endeavoured at the ſame time to perſuade Hamilton and the Scots, that the thing was practicable, offering to head the attack in perſon. Hamilton, who was an old weak man, and as ignorant of military affairs, as thoſe who were under him, rejected this propoſal, as being too deſperate; and relying on the promiſes of two or three French officers, who happened to be in the garriſon, and who perſuaded him, they could obtain terms for the

garriſon, he choſe to hang out a white flag. In the mean time, Geohagan, who ſtiled himſelf commander of the French artillery, and of the French garriſon, that was at, or might come to Carliſle, ſent a letter, ſummoning the commander of the Dutch to retire with his troops from the Engliſh army, under pretence of the capitulation of Tournay; which letter, with the perſon who carried it, fell into the hands of his royal highneſs, and was treated with the contempt it deſerved. Upon the white flag, however, being hung out, the firing ceaſed, and the rebels called over the walls, that they had two hoſtages ready to be delivered at the Engliſh gate. This being reported to his royal highneſs, he ordered colonel Conway and lord Bury to deliver to the rebels the two following meſſages, ſigned by colonel Conway, his aid de camp. Geo. II. 1745. which is ſurrendered.

"His royal highneſs will make no exchange of hoſtages with the rebels, and deſires they will let him know by me, what they mean by hanging out the white flag." The duke's meſſage to the rebels.

"To let the French officer know, if there is one in the town, that there are no Dutch troops here; but enough of the king's to chaſtiſe the rebels, and thoſe who dare to give them any aſſiſtance."

Thoſe meſſages being delivered, the following anſwer to his royal highneſs, dated the ſame day, was returned by Hamilton, who ſigned it.

"In anſwer to the ſhort note, ſent by his royal highneſs prince William, duke of Cumberland, the governor, in name of himſelf, and all the officers and ſoldiers, gunners, and others, belonging to the garriſon, deſire to know what terms his royal highneſs will be pleaſed to give them, upon ſurrender of the city and caſtle of Carliſle; and which known, his royal highneſs ſhall be duly acquainted with the governor's and garriſon's laſt or ultimate reſolution; the white flag being hung out on purpoſe to obtain a ceſſation of arms, for concluding ſuch a capitulation. This is to be given to his royal highneſs's aid de camp." Their anſwer.

This anſwer, produced, by order of his royal highneſs, the following declaration to the rebels; which was ſent them by colonel Conway and the lord Bury.

"All the terms his royal highneſs will, or can grant to the rebel garriſon of Carliſle, are, that they ſhall not be put to the ſword, but reſerved for the king's pleaſure." The duke's reply.

"If they conſent to the conditions, the governor and officers are to deliver themſelves up immediately; and the caſtle, citadel, and all the gates of the town, are to be

Geo. II. 1745. taken poſſeſſion of forthwith by the king's troops. All the ſmall arms are to be lodged in the town guard-room; and the reſt of the garriſon are to retire to the cathedral, where a guard is to be placed over them. No damage to be done to the artillery, arms, or ammunition."

The anſwer to the above terms, was as follows.

The rebels deliver up themſelves, "The governor of Carliſle and the officers, compoſing the garriſon, agree to the terms of capitulation given in, and ſubſcribed by order of his royal highneſs, by his grace the duke of Richmond, Lenox and Aubigny, lieutenant-general of his majeſty's forces, recommending themſelves to his royal highneſs's clemency, and that his royal highneſs will be pleaſed to interpoſe for them with his majeſty; and that the officers cloaths and baggage may be ſafe, with a competent time to be allowed to the citizens of Carliſle to remove their beds, bed-cloaths, and other houſhold furniture, impreſſed from them for the uſe of the garriſon. The 30th of Dec. 1745, at three o'clock in the afternoon."

and the king's troops take poſſeſſion of Carliſle. His royal highneſs having received this paper, brigadier Bligh took poſſeſſion of the town with about 1200 of his majeſty's foot and horſe, and the rebels ſubmitted to ſurrender, and to be confined in the cathedral, in the terms preſcribed to them. Of thoſe in the French ſervice, no more than eight were found in the place, and ſixteen pieces of braſs artillery, of about four pound each, were taken, being left there by their main body. All the Engliſh, who were taken in the garriſon, amounted to not above 100, the Manchester regiment included; and of the Scotch, beſides Hamilton the governor, there were ſix captains, ſeven lieutenants, three enſigns, one ſurgeon, and two hundred and fifty ſix private men.

Magnanimity of the duke. The magnanimity of the behaviour of his royal highneſs, in not admitting the rebels to any terms, was greatly approved of; but the more, when he ordered that all their cloaths and effects ſhould be carefully preſerved for their uſe: and he had the pleaſure of receiving deputies, from Edinburgh and other places, congratulating him upon his ſucceſs.

Reflection. Thus ended the expedition of the rebels in England; an expedition, when all circumſtances are conſidered, that would ſeem incredible to poſterity, were not the facts attending it, unqueſtionably vouched. That ſix or ſeven thouſand men, unprovided with horſes, with magazines, and many of them with arms, ſhould march from the extremities of Scotland, to within eighty miles of London, through a country, that abhorred

abhorred their manners, and deteſted their cauſe; and that they ſhould return to Scotland, without loſing (as was the caſe) above fifty men, by death or deſertion, is next to incredible. Upon their return, they were guilty of many exceſſes, in plundering the inhabitants of the country, which they had forborne when they marched into England, which was owing to the chagrin they had conceived at their diſappointment; yet they were not accuſed of being ſanguinary againſt the people of the country, though it was ſaid in the ſkirmiſh at Cliſton, ſome of them called out, to give no quarters to the king's troops. Geo. II. 1745.

But their ſucceſs in a great meaſure may be accounted for, by the diſſimularity of manners between them and their enemies. Bred up in hardy, active, and abſtemious courſes of life, they were always prepared to march, and never at a loſs for accommodation or proviſion: they were devoted to enthuſiaſm, to the cauſe they were engaged in, and they thought no crime was equal to the diſobedience of the commands of their leaders, who, during their march into England, ſought by all means to conciliate the minds of the people to their intereſt.

The common people of England, on the other hand, having been long uſed to pay an army for fighting for them, had at this time forgot all the military virtues of their anceſtors. The militia therefore was uſeleſs, and few but thoſe who regularly entered into the ſervice of the government, choſe in their own perſons to venture any thing againſt the rebels. They depended upon the army for their protection, and it was found by experience, that the unwieldy motions of the regulars gave their enemies a vaſt advantage, by rendering it next to impoſſible to come up with them. This was the real cauſe of their performing ſuch amazing marches, with ſo little loſs; and of their being able to hold out ſo long againſt ſo great a ſuperiority of numbers and diſcipline.

By this time, general Wade had ſent ſome regiments of foot and dragoons to protect the city of Edinburgh, to which all the people of rank, in the intereſt of the government, were now returned. The courts of juſtice and public ſchools were again opened; a regiment of loyal volunteers was formed, and a greater ſpirit of affection for the government appeared there, and all over the country, than did, even before the breaking out of the rebellion. The like diſcovered itſelf at Glaſgow, where the magiſtracy and inhabitants exerted themſelves in an eminent manner. They raiſed Edinburgh recovered to the government.

Geo. II. 1745. a regiment at their own expence, and the earl of Hume who had greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf againſt the rebels, was made its colonel. Other towns and counties imitated the example of Glaſgow and Edinburgh, for which the rebels, who thought their moderation would have gained all Scotland to their party, devoted them to deſtruction.

Proceedings of the rebels in Scotland.

For, having returned to Scotland, they divided into two bodies; the one under the pretender, ſtruck off towards Annan, and the other to Eccleſechan. The town of Dumfries, which had ſignalized itſelf for the government, was ſeverely mulcted and plundered; for they were obliged to pay down 1100 l. in money, and to give two hoſtages for the payment of 900 l. more; and, upon the whole, the place was damaged to the value of upwards of 4000 l. The demands of the rebels upon the city of Glaſgow was much larger, being no leſs in money and wearable commodities, than 10,000 l. ſterling; and they took every opportunity of oppreſſing and plundering every man, who had ſignalized himſelf in the cauſe of the government. The young pretender himſelf appeared at the head of his army in Glaſgow, and having made a haſty, but oppreſſive, tour through all that well-affected country, they bent their whole forces towards Stirling, with an intention to beſiege that caſtle, which had been extremely troubleſome to them, while they were tranſporting their magazines and artillery ſouthward, and ſtill continued to prevent a great many from the North from joining them. But it is now neceſſary to attend the progreſs of the rebellion in the North.

Meaſures taken by lord Loudon and the preſident in the North of Scotland.

The earl of Loudon, who commanded for the government at Inverneſs, had been indefatigable in forming there a little army, with which he did vaſt ſervice againſt the ill-affected in thoſe parts. He was well ſeconded by Mr. Forbes, lord preſident of the ſeſſion, (whoſe houſe at Culloden, ſome of the ill-affected had in vain attacked,) and by the lord Fortroſe, ſo called, as being the eldeſt ſon of the forfeited earl of Seaforth, and ſir Alexander Macdonald. The moſt active rebel in thoſe parts at that time was lord Lewis Gordon, who has been already mentioned, and brother to the duke of Gordon. As that family had a great intereſt in Aberdeenſhire and the adjacent counties, who were either in the pretender's intereſt, or indifferent about all matters of party, he had uſed many indirect and ſevere practices to oblige them to join him, and had made great levies, not only of public, but of private, money, which he laid out in ſtrengthening his force.

But

But the moſt dangerous, as well as the moſt powerful rebel, at this time in Scotland, was the famous Simon lord Lovat, whoſe character is a compound of abilities and abſurdities. In the early part of his life, he had been guilty of a rape upon a woman of quality and fortune, for which he had been capitally convicted, and proſcribed; after that, flying to France, and turning papiſt, he had the addreſs to win the confidence of the courts of St Germains and Verſailles, for whom he undertook to raiſe a rebellion in Scotland at the latter end of kin William's, and the beginning of queen Anne's, reign. Being equipped by the court of France with money and proper credentials for that purpoſe, he came over to Scotland, where he diſcovered to the government the whole of his tranſactions with the French court, and gave them liſts of all the nobility and gentry, who, as he had undertaken, were to riſe in arms. The government, upon enquiry, finding there had been ſome tampering with others of the Scots as well as with Fraſer, for he had not then taken the title of Lovat, truſted him, and he had the addreſs to procure a full pardon for all his treaſons; which were ſo bold and ſo black, that the duke of Queenſberry, who then managed the affairs of Scotland, was in danger of an impeachment, for ſcreening him from juſtice. Even after this, he went over to France, where he confeſſed at the court of St. Germains all that he had done, and pretended, all he had done was for the ſervice of the jacobites; and that court was ſo infatuated as to believe him. He could not, however, impoſe upon the court of Verſailles, for he was ſent to the Baſtile, where he lay for many months, and it was owing to his conſummate diſſimulation and cunning, that he was not broke upon the wheel, as being a double traitor. When he returned to Great Britain, his ſufferings in France recommended him once more, not only to the protection, but the favour, of the government; and having an undoubted title to the chieſtanſhip of the powerful clan of the Frafers, which was the great ambition of his life, he obtained not only that, but the poſſeſſion of a fine eſtate. Though money and power were the two ruling principles of his life, yet when thoſe were not in view, popery and jacobitiſm ſupplied their place. In the year 1715, he had been highly ſerviceable to the government, in ſuppreſſing the rebellion in the northern and weſtern parts, and he had been nobly rewarded for thoſe ſervices. Being a man of great perſonal courage, and much converſant in almoſt every ſcene of life, civil,

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Account and character of lord Lovat.

Geo. II. 1745. civil, military, and religious, after the ſuppreſſion of the rebellion of 1715, he became a perſonal favourite of king George I. and though his natural addreſs was homely, and his face and perſon remarkably forbidding, he found means to render himſelf a compleat courtier. His late ſervices gave credit to all his former profeſſions of attachment to the family of Hanover; and he had the cunning to put ſuch a gloſs upon his former demerits, that they were conſidered as ſo many ſervices and ſufferings for the proteſtant ſucceſſion.

But, in fact, the attachment he ſhewed to the government in 1715, was owing to the enmity he bore to a gentleman of his own name, who diſputed with him the chieftanſhip of the Frafers, and who was remarkably devoted to the cauſe of the pretender, from whom Lovat, at that time, could expect no favour, his double treaſons having been thoroughly diſcovered in France. As his clan was devoted to him, he formed a very artful ſcheme, of erecting himſelf into a kind of viceroy in the Highlands, by pretending, that if he had the diſtribution of 25,000l. yearly amongſt the heads of the clans, he could prevent all their future inſurrections, and bring them into the intereſt of his majeſty. Though king George I. gave an ear to this propoſal, the miniſtry could not be brought to it; and it being thought preferable to raiſe ſome independent companies of the well-affected clans for the quiet and protection of the Highlands, lord Lovat obtained the command of one of thoſe companies, and he had the art to make his commiſſion, and the perquiſites belonging to it, bring him in upwards of 1500l. a year. The means he employed, however, for raiſing ſuch a ſum from a ſingle company, were flagitious; and when Wade was appointed to take upon him the command of the forces in Scotland, and to have a particular eye upon the Highlands, Lovat conceived the deſign of reconciling himſelf to the pretender. For Wade finding, upon enquiry, the tyrannical and corrupt manner in which Lovat had behaved in the country, complained of him, and had credit enough to prevail with his majeſty to take from him his company. Lovat, who, even while he was in the ſervice of the government, had affected an independency in the Highlands, was enraged beyond meaſure at the loſs of his company. He inſtantly employed Roy Stewart, the rebel colonel already mentioned, who had eſcaped out of priſon, to which he was committed for high treaſon, to make his peace with the old pretender; promiſing to do him eminent ſervices, provided he ſent him a com-

a commiſſion to be his lieutenant-general in the Highlands, and a patent for a dukedom. This requeſt was readily granted, with an additional commiſſion, appointing him to be lord lieutenant of all the counties north of Spey. After this, he was at very little pains to conceal his attachment to the pretender's cauſe. He abandoned that frugality and cloſeneſs of œconomy for which he had been always remarkable, and his houſe and table were always open to the adherents of the family of Stewart; and all his converſation became groſsly treaſonable. This alteration of conduct in a man who was known to be ſo tenacious of his intereſt, and ſo anxious about his eſtate, his chieftanſhip, and the continuance of his family power, muſt have been partly owing to dotage operating with his concealed principles, and partly to the conviction he was under, that the young pretender would be ſupported by a foreign force, which, joined with the Highlanders of his party, would infallibly render his enterprize ſucceſsful. For when Charles landed, naked and unattended as he was, Lovat was ſtartled, and refuſed to join him. Being conſcious, however, that he had been guilty of many overt acts of treaſon, he began early, after the pretender's ſtandard was ſet up, to arm his clan; very poſſibly with a view of turning it againſt the rebels if they had been unſucceſsful, and thereby again meriting a pardon for himſelf and family from the government. The event of the battle of Preſton Pans, had, however, a very different influence upon him; and he ordered his ſon, a promiſing youth of about 19 years of age, to put himſelf at the head of his clan, and to march to Perth, which the rebels, left in Scotland, had begun to fortify, and had rendered their chief rendezvous. Geo. II. 1745.

See Lovat's tryal, p. 23, 24, et ſeq.

Though Lovat was the moſt abſolute and the moſt rigorous chieftan in Scotland, yet he did not find ſo ready a compliance in many of his clan as he had expected; and therefore he ordered the fiery croſs, as it is called, to be ſent about his eſtate, to force them. This is a general denunciation, made by the Highland chieftans, of plunder, fire and ſword againſt all who ſhall refuſe to join them; and Lovat inflicted all upon ſuch of his clan as did not immediately take the field, by which great part of them were forced into the rebellion. But before he ventured to declare his intentions openly, ſome conſiderations operated to deter him. Lord Loudon was at the head of a body of men, equal, if not ſuperior, in numbers, to thoſe of Lovat's clan; and the lord preſident, by his intereſt and authority, was daily ſtrengthning his force. Both of them were perfectly well acquainted with Ibid.

Geo. II. 1745. with Lovat's diſpoſition and diſſimulation, and Lovat was afraid, that, if he was left defenceleſs, he muſt become a priſoner in their power. He therefore ordered his ſon, who by this time had marched at the head of the clan, conſiſting of a party of about ſeven hundred men, towards Perth, to return, which he obeyed; and he ſent an agent to the earl of Loudon and lord preſident, to aſſure them, that the march of his ſon was contrary to his inclinations, and proceeding entirely from the young man's diſobedience and obſtinacy. The two lords knew that could not be the caſe; and the lord preſident ſent the meſſenger back to lord Lovat, charged with a very warm letter, containing a mixture of reproof and advice. This letter would, undoubtedly, have had the proper effect, if, juſt at that time, Lovat had not received certain intelligence that lord John Drummond was landed with about 6 or 700 men in the pay of the French king, and that he had brought with him arms and ammunition, with aſſurances of the party being ſpeedily more effectually ſupported. Upon this, he gave his final orders to his ſon to march with his men to Perth.

The earl of Loudon had now a very difficult part to act. He knew that Lovat had ſtill a pretty large body of his tenants in reſerve; that the whole country and ſea-coaſt, from the Forth to the Spay, was in a manner in the hands of the rebels, and that lord Lewis Gordon, and their other heads, were oppreſſing and plundering all the well affected in thoſe countries. He was afraid, at the ſame time, leſt Fort Auguſtus ſhould fall into the hands of the rebels. His firſt care was to relieve Fort Auguſtus, and with 600 of the well-affected clans, he marched, in a very ſevere froſt, through Stratharick, which was the part of Lovat's eſtate that had not yet joined the rebellion; and upon his march he gave the inhabitants to underſtand what they were to expect if they did. He then ſupplied Fort Auguſtus with all that was neceſſary; and Mr. Macleod, the head of that clan, with 500 men, (400 whereof were of his own kindred) was detached towards Elgin in their way to Bamff and Aberdeenſhire, to prevent the rebels recruiting there; and they were to be followed by lord Loudon, and as many men as could be ſpared from Inverneſs.

In the mean while, lord Loudon, by the advice of the lord preſident, took lord Lovat (who was then diſturniſhed of his guard) into cuſtody, and carried him to Inverneſs; and Lovat's diſſimulation roſe ſo high, that he curſed his ſon, as having, through diſobedience, forced his clan into rebellion. He was but a few days at Inverneſs before he meditated his eſcape;

eſcape; and to effect it the better, he promiſed lord Loudon, that he would deliver up to him all the arms of his clan, who had not joined the rebellion, and this with ſuch appearances of ſincerity, that he found means to eſcape out of cuſtody. Geo. II. 1745.

Lord Lewis Gordon defeats the well-affectioned clans under Macleod.

Macleod, at this time, was marching towards Bamff and Aberdeenſhires, and having paſſed the Spey, he was joined with 200 of the Monros. Their force being now thought to be equal to that of the rebels under lord Lewis Gordon, who had retired to Aberdeen, Macleod and Monro reſolved to attack that town, which was open and unfortified. They had been favoured in their march by a ſtrong party of the Grants, under the chieftan of that name, who was well-affected to the government; and it was through a dread of them that the rebels had left them an open paſſage over the Spey. But the Grants ſoon returned to their own country; and lord Lewis underſtanding that he was to be attacked, had ſent to the ſouth for conſiderable reinforcements, which joined him, and rendered him ſuperior in force to Macleod and Monro, who underſtanding that, halted in their march at Inverary, in expectation of a reinforcement, which had been promiſed them from lord Loudon. But the rebels having intercepted a letter, by which they underſtood that the reinforcement could not, at that time, be ſpared, attacked Macleod and Monro's men ſo opportunely, that they were put to flight with ſome loſs, and with difficulty repaſſed the Spey.

Succeſs of the rebels in the ſouth of Scotland.

While thoſe things were tranſacting in the North, the affairs of the government did not wear a better proſpect towards the ſouth of Scotland. For though another tranſport, with about 206 French officers and ſoldiers was taken, and the men brought priſoners to Edinburgh, yet the arrival of lord John Drummond, with the money, ammunition and arms he brought, together with the repeated aſſurances of the French court, that they were to ſend a much larger number in ſupport of the pretender, gave the rebels great ſpirits. Some countenance was given to their confidence by one Boyer, a dependent and relation of cardinal Tencin, who had attended the young pretender through all his expedition, in the aſſumed character of the French ambaſſador. This perſon was always provided with encouraging letters, perſuading the rebels to perſevere, and his preſence and countenance was of great ſervice to them. The Fox man of war, commanded by captain Beaver, a brave and vigilant officer, having been ſtationed in the road of Leith, had been of excellent ſervice in guarding the communication between Lothian and the

Geo. II. 1745. the northern parts, but was now unhappily loſt in a ſtorm, and all her crew had periſhed. About the ſame time the Hazard ſloop, which had been very ſerviceable in the northern parts, was ſurprized by the rebels at Montroſe, and her guns were mounted to fortify that harbour.

After the reduction of Carliſle, and the precipitate retreat of the rebels, the public imagined that the rebellion was as good as cruſhed; and his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland, after his fatiguing expedition, had returned to St. James's upon the 4th of January. About this time the marquis of Tweedale, for reaſons very obvious in the courſe of this hiſtory, reſigned the ſeals as one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate. It was ſoon underſtood, by the march of the rebels for Stirling, and by the exceſſive impoſitions they had laid upon Glaſgow, and the other well-affected parts of the ſouth and weſt of Scotland, that the rebellion there was now blazing with greater fury than ever. The caſtle of Stirling is a place ſtrong neither by art nor nature, but was held by a good garriſon, under the command of general Blakeney. Adjoining to the caſtle lies the town, which is almoſt open and defenceleſs. The rebels were now reinforced by the troops under lord John Drummond, by the Frafers under the maſter of Lovat, and lord Lewis Gordon's men. But it was with inconceiveable difficulty they could bring up their artillery to act either againſt the town or caſtle. At laſt, they ſucceeded ſo far, as to open a kind of battery againſt the town; upon which the principal inhabitants, who had been before ſummoned to ſurrender, met together to deliberate about giving up the place. They had not above 700 men in arms to defend it; but Blakeney offered the towns-people a retreat into the caſtle if they were overpowered. The rebels, however, beginning to play pretty briſkly upon the place, the magiſtracy capitulated with them; and after delivering in the ſmall arms of the militia, and thoſe that were in arms, to general Blakeney, the rebels took poſſeſſion of the place on the 8th of January.

The rebels take the town of Stirling.

This ſucceſs of the rebels, after their amazing eſcape from two royal armies, was conſidered in England as a freſh alarm. A new army was immediately ordered to be got ready, and general Huſke, who commanded at that time in Scotland, made very proper diſpoſitions for retarding the progreſs of the rebels till general Hawley, who was appointed commander in chief, could come up. He took with him five whole regiments. The Glaſgow regiment, which was commanded by lord

A new army formed.

lord Home, and which had been forced to retire to Edinburgh, with the remains of Hamilton's and Gardiner's dragoons, had diſlodged a large party of the rebels from Linlithgow, where he took poſt. Three regiments more marched from Edinburgh to Borrowſtounneſs; and on the 16th of January Hawley himſelf followed with the artillery. The rebels, in the mean time, had retired to Falkirk; but upon Huſk's advancing againſt them with eight regiments, they fled with great conſternation to Stirling, while Huſk took poſſeſſion of Falkirk, where he was joined by 1000 Argyleſhire men, under lieutenant colonel Campbel. All the king's army, conſidering the ſeaſon of the year and the length of their marches, was in high ſpirits. The city of London, and the people of England, had, with an unparalleled liberality, ſupplied them with warm cloathing, and neceſſaries of all kinds. The people of the ſouth and weſt parts of Scotland had been equally aſſiduous in ſupplying them with all manner of refreſhments and comfortable quarters; and being in all reſpects ſuperior to the rebels, they thought themſelves certain of victory, and of relieving Stirling caſtle, which was, by this time, ſurrounded and beſieged by the rebels, but in a very aukward, unſoldierlike, and, indeed, harmleſs, manner.

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commanded by Hawley.

Hawley had been bred a ſoldier, and poſſeſſed the moſt unamiable part of that character. He was cruel, brutal, and preſumptuous; but having ſeen a good deal of ſervice by his long ſtanding in the army, being in his perſon zealous and brave, and eſteemed an excellent horſe officer, he was pitch'd upon for this command. He had under him major-general Huſke, brigadier Cholmondely, brigadier Mordaunt, and ſeveral other officers of reputation, particularly ſir Robert Monro, whoſe clan had behaved with great fidelity in the North, and who was then colonel of a regiment in the government's ſervice. This army was compoſed of Ligonier's, Cobham's, and Hamilton's dragoons; the foot regiments of Wolf, Cholmondely, Pulteny, Royal, Price, Ligonier, Blakeney, Monro, Fleming, Barrel, Battereau, beſides the Glaſgow militia and the Argyleſhire Highlanders, the whole conſiſting of about 10,000 men. At the head of this army, aſſembled at Falkirk, Hawley thought himſelf ſo invincible, that he took very little pains to procure any intelligence of the rebels, who were aſſembled in Torwood, and had been very careful to conceal both their numbers and operations. As to their numbers, it was differently reported; but according to the beſt accounts, it did not exceed in the whole 8000 men.

His character.

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The battle of Falkirk.

On the 17th of January, while Hawley was at dinner, an alarm was brought to him, that the rebels were ſeen in motion to take poſſeſſion of ſome riſing grounds about a mile from Falkirk, where the royal army was encamped. As it was of great conſequence to be poſſeſſed of thoſe riſing grounds, Hawley immediately formed his men in the front of their camp. They were formed in two lines. In the firſt was Ligonier's, Cobham's, and Hamilton's dragoons, the regiments of Wolf, Cholmondely, Pulteny, Price, and a battallion of the Royal; in the ſecond line, thoſe of Blakeney, Monro, Fleming, Barrel, and Battereau. On the left of the royal army was a moraſs; and the Glaſgow militia, with a part of Hamilton's dragoons, were poſted as a body of reſerve. The rebels were likewiſe drawn up in two lines; the right commanded by lord George Murray, the left by lord John Drummond, and the pretender, with his cavalry, and one of his beſt battallions, was poſted in the center. Hawley having made his diſpoſition, was in no hurry; but, having finiſhed his dinner, he gave orders to his dragoons to march to the riſing grounds, and to cut the rebels in pieces with their ſwords. The dragoons accordingly marched, and attacked with great courage and ſome ſucceſs; but perceiving the riſing grounds already poſſeſſed by the rebels, and being unſupported by the foot, who could not get their artillery dragged up the hill, they wheeled off, after receiving an irregular fire from the enemy. The dragoons were commanded by colonel Ligonier and lieutenant-colonel Whitney, who did their utmoſt to rally them. But inſtead of that, they came back upon the foot of the left wing, who immediately fell into diſorder, which was greatly encreaſed by the wind and the rain, (a circumſtance that had not been fully conſidered by Hawley) beating full, and with great violence, in their faces, and which, conſequently, occaſioned their fire to be very irregular and weak. This diſcouraged the whole line of foot. But, Barrel's, part of Price's and Ligonier's regiments, rallied under brigadier general Cholmondely, and marched up to the ground from which the Royals and the other regiments had been driven, and ſtopt the career of the rebels. This ſtand gave general Huſke an opportunity of rallying the other regiments in the rear of thoſe commanded by Cholmondely, as brigadier Mordaunt did ſome others, by which the army, in all probability, was ſaved from a total defeat. For the rebels throwing away their guns, which had done but very little execution, advanced ſword in hand upon Barrel's and the other two regiments, who gave them a very ſmart

ſmart fire, and drove them back; while the other regiments, who had been, by this time, formed, advancing under Huſke and Mordaunt, put an entire ſtop to the progreſs of the rebels. But night came on, it being five in the afternoon before the king's troops could retrieve their diſpoſition. This, together with the ſeverity of the rain, and their being deſtitute of artillery, the captain of which had abandoned it, while the drivers of it had rode off with the horſes, determined the royaliſts to retire towards their camp at Falkirk. The rebels ſpent ſome time, as they pretended, in recovering their guns; but their leaders having called them together, aſſured them that they would gain a compleat victory if they would purſue the king's troops, as it was impoſſible for them, in ſuch diſmal weather, and deſtitute as they were of proviſions, to remain upon the field of battle. The propoſition was agreed to. Lord Kilmarnock, who that day commanded the huſſars, propoſed to lead half the army by a nearer way, which he knew, (his houſe being in the neighbourhood) ſo as to cut off their retreat to Linlithgow, while the other half attacked them at Falkirk. This propoſition was rejected; but the whole body, notwithſtanding the extream darkneſs of the night, marched to Falkirk, where the king's troops, who were moſt terribly fatigued and diſpirited by their not being able to make uſe of their fire-arms through the exceſſive rain, ſet fire to their tents, in as effectual a manner as the rain would permit them, and retired to Linlithgow. This retreat, however, could not have been effected, had not a body of the king's troops made a ſtand againſt Lochiel, as he was entering Falkirk.

Geo. II. 1745.

The king's army retires to Falkirk.

The loſs in this battle, on the ſide of the royaliſts, was greater than the government choſe to own. The number of killed was about 400, moſt of them dragoons; but the loſs fell heavieſt upon the officers, to whoſe bravery the public was that day greatly indebted. Amongſt others, was killed ſir Robert Monro and his brother: the former behaving like a gallant officer, as he was, and the latter, who had been bred to medicine, in endeavouring to ſupport him, and to dreſs his wounds. Lieutenant colonel Whitney, and two cornets of Gardiner's dragoons, were likewiſe amongſt the ſlain; as was one cornet of Hamilton's; four captains and one lieutenant of Blakeney's; five captains and one lieutenant of Wolf's; two captains of Howard's; lieutenant colonel Powel of Cholmondeley's regiment, and lieutenant colonel Biggar of colonel Monro's; about 300 were taken priſoners, many of whom were of the Glaſgow regiment, who had behaved extremely

Geo. II. 1745. extremely well under lord Hume. The royaliſts, however, loſt ſeven pieces of cannon, ſome colours, 600 muſquets, as the rebels themſelves gave out, a large quantity of granadoes, 4000 weight of powder, 28 waggons laden with military ſtores, and all the tents and baggage that eſcaped the flames. The rebels loſt about 200 in the whole.

Reflection on the battle.

When the circumſtances of this battle are impartially conſidered, one cannot help thinking, that an infatuation attended the Engliſh general, in not guarding againſt the miſtakes that had proved ſo fatal to the royaliſts at Preſton Pans. Two regiments of baffled dragoons, who, by their behaviour before, had no character to loſe, were very improper troops to begin the attack upon the ſame enemy; and the dilatory meaſures made uſe of by the general, gave them the ſame advantages of breaking in, with the aſſiſtance of the ground, upon the king's cavalry, and by throwing them into diſorder, of impreſſing the foot with a panick, which, had it not been for the extraordinary valour and activity of the officers, muſt have ended in an abſolute defeat. But above all, the loſs of the artillery at Preſton Pans, by the cowardice or treachery of the country people, ought to have put Hawley upon his guard. But he fell into the ſame error, and it had the ſame conſequences. Amongſt others who were made priſoners in this battle, was captain Thornton, a gentleman of fortune in Yorkſhire, whoſe zeal for the royal ſervice made him raiſe, at his own expence, a brave troop of horſe, which he himſelf headed. He found means, however, ſoon after his being taken, to eſcape to Edinburgh.

The king's army marches from Linlithgow to Edinburgh.

As to the king's army under Hawley, it reſted only one night at Linlithgow, and then marched to Edinburgh. There they found the king's officers who had been taken priſoners at the battle of Preſton Pans, and who had been freed from their ſeveral confinements by the reſolution and loyalty of the country people. As the retreat of the king's forces to Edinburgh could not but make a great noiſe, ſome examples of public juſtice were due, both to ſatisfy the people, and for the ſake of diſcipline. A court-martial was accordingly held, of which brigadier Mordaunt was preſident; and ſeveral private men were puniſhed for cowardice. It muſt be owned, however, that the diſcouragement and ſeverities under which they laboured, were very great. Colonel Ligonier, an excellent officer, contracted a diſeaſe, through the fatigues of the day and the inclemency of the weather, of which he died in a few days after the battle; and brigadier Cholmondley, from the ſeverity of the cold, contracted a palſey; while the

the rebels, accuſtomed to ſuch extremities, endured them without inconveniency. Geo. II. 1745.

The day after the battle, the young pretender having diſpoſed of his priſoners, ſummoned the garriſon of Stirling caſtle to ſurrender; but received for anſwer from general Blakeney, that he had been always looked upon as a man of honour, and that they ſhould find he would die ſo. Upon this the ſiege was reſumed; and the heads of the rebels, ſenſible how unfit their men were for regular approaches, ordered the walls of the caſtle to be ſcaled. Blakeney underſtanding their deſign, made a proper diſpoſition of his garriſon, and after ſuffering them to proceed as far as he thought fit, he gave them ſuch a diſcharge from his cannon loaded with grape ſhot, and from his muſquetry, as killed them a great number of men, and made them deſiſt. All this time the king's ſhips were in poſſeſſion of all the navigable parts of the Forth, where the rebels had erected ſome batteries to ſecure their communication over that river, and ſo incommoded them, that the ſiege advanced very ſlowly. The Highlanders refuſed to ſerve in the trenches, and the troops in the French ſervice were appointed to carry on the attacks. At laſt, with vaſt difficulty, batteries were erected; but they did no manner of execution, the rebels not having ſkill enough to mount them with cannon. The ſiege of Stirling caſtle renewed.

In this ſtate was the rebellion, when the news arrived at London of the event of the battle of Falkirk, which renewed the public conſternation. His majeſty, on the 14th of January, had, in a ſpeech he made from the throne, in a manner congratulated his people upon the ſucceſs of his troops againſt the rebellion. "The daring attempt, ſaid he, which the rebels have ſince made upon this part of my kingdom, has been happily diſappointed; and as their precipitate flight before a ſmall number of my troops muſt greatly diſjoint them, ſo that inviolable duty and loyalty, which have been ſo univerſally and readily ſhewn by my faithful ſubjects, and never ſhall be forgotten by me, muſt convince them how vain and ill-grounded their hopes are of any addition of ſtrength from ſuch an enterprize. I have not only ſent a conſiderable body of national forces into Scotland, and ordered the Heſſian troops in my pay to be landed there; but have alſo made ſuch a diſpoſition of the reſt of my forces by land, as well as by ſea, that I hope, by the bleſſing of God, this rebellion will, in a ſhort time, be extinguiſhed, and our enemies, who have ſo long menaced us with an invaſion, be deterred by the ſeaſonable preparations made for our defence." Part of the king's ſpeech.

Geo. II. 1745.

Loyal ſpirit of the Engliſh.

Notwithſtanding the favourable turn which the affairs of the rebels ſeemed to take by the battle of Falkirk, the public ſoon reſumed a ſpirit worthy of itſelf. The adventurers and contributors for the relief of the ſoldiers about London, exerted themſelves more than ever. Upwards of 18,000l. had been ſubſcribed for at Guildhall, of which 5000l. was expended for rewards to the maimed and wounded. 5000l. more was given in rewards to ſuch private ſoldiers and non-commiſſion officers as ſhould merit the ſame by their bravery. 300l. was ſent to Newcaſtle for the benefit of the ſick there; and the following accommodations and cloathing were ſent to the army from the ſame ſubſcription, viz. 20,000 ſhirts, 15,000 pair of breeches, 160,500 pair of ſtockings, 10,000 woollen caps, 12,000 pair of gloves, 9000 pair of ſpatterdaſhes, and 1000 blankets; the ſending of all which to Scotland coſt 400l. The whole expence amounting to 17,256l. 16s. 2d. Other contributions for the ſame noble purpoſes, were made in other parts of England.

The duke ſets out to take the command againſt the rebels.

His majeſty's magnanimity ſeconded the ſpirit of his ſubjects. For though he continued general Hawley ſtill in his command, yet his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland was appointed to ſuppreſs the rebellion, which he undertook with ſo much chearfulneſs to do, that on the 25th of January he ſet out about one o'clock in the morning from St. James's, attended by lord Cathcart, the lord Bury, colonel Conway, and colonel York, and on the 30th he arrived at Edinburgh, where he was welcomed by all the friends of the government, as the guardian angel of his father's dominions.

His army.

The army, with ſome additional troops to replace thoſe that were loſt, was inſtantly reaſſembled, and conſiſted of the regiments of dragoons commanded by major general St. George, lord Cobham, lord Mark Kerr, colonel Naizon, and major general Hamilton, with the duke of Kingſton's new raiſed regiment. The infantry was compoſed of the regiments of Howard, Barrel, Wolfe, the Scotch fuzileers, Blakeney, Cholmondeley, Fleming, Monro, Battereau, Price, Sempill, Pulteny, and the ſecond battalion of the Royal Scotch, commanded by general St. Clair, with the Argyleſhire Highlanders under colonel Campbel, the Glaſgow regiment having been ordered back for the protection of that city. The general officers under the duke, were the lieutenant generals Albemarle and Hawley, the major generals Bland, Huſk, lord Sempill, and brigadier Mordaunt. The army was likewiſe provided with 16 pieces of additional braſs cannon, ſtores, gunners and matroſſes, all of them ſent from Newcaſtle.

The

The firſt cares of his royal highneſs, juſtified the choice Geo. II.
his majeſty had made of him. He applied himſelf to revive the 1745-6.
confidence of the people and the ſpirits of the ſoldiers; and his behaviour to all ranks, who upon this occaſion crowded about him, procured him a popularity which was of infinite ſervice to his father's intereſt. The ſoldiers had been diſpirited by the ſeverity of Hawley, and the late examples of rigour; but the moderation and clemency of his royal highneſs ſoon reanimated them to ſuch a degree, that notwithſtanding all their late ſufferings, they ſeemed more eager than ever to be led againſt the enemy. The intention of his royal highneſs, who marched from Edinburgh early on the 31ſt of January, with his army in two columns, was, if poſſible, to have ſurprized the enemy. With this view, parties of dragoons were ordered to ſcower the roads, to intercept all intelligence that could be carried to the rebels, who at this time, through the vigilance of his majeſty's ſhips of war, were in the utmoſt diſtreſs for proviſions. They found means, however, to underſtand that the duke was advancing againſt them, and they called a council of war, to deliberate in what manner they ſhould proceed. Upon examining the ſtate of their army, it was found, that they had been able to get no more than three pieces of cannon mounted on their batteries, and theſe being very ill ſerved, had made no impreſſion upon the caſtle of Stirling. Their men having been intolerably fatigued, were not in a condition to encounter freſh troops; and great numbers of them, as uſual, had deſerted, with what they had got, to their own homes. The pretender, however, was ſtill ſo preſumptuous, as to propoſe to march and fight the duke; and the rebels had made ſome diſpoſitions, which indicated as if they had been reſolved to ſtand a battle. But the folly of that reſolution was expoſed ſo well by lord George Murray, and the other heads of the party, that it was reſolved to retreat northwards, with all the baggage and cannon they could carry off, and to blow up their magazines[a].

The

[a] An account of all this having been ſent by his royal highneſs to the lord juſtice Clark at Edinburgh, it is proper here to inſert his letter, as no other account can be of equal authority.

"My lord juſtice Clark,

"I thought proper to give you an account of what has happened ſince I left Edinburgh. Yeſterday I marched from Edinburgh with the army in two columns, conſiſting of 14 battalions, the Argyleſhire men, and the two regiments of dragoons of Cobham and Mark Kerr, and quartered myſelf at Linlithgow, with eight battalions, and brigadier

Geo. II. 1745-6. The retreat was performed with their uſual ſpeed and alacrity, and in a manner that would have done honour to the fineſt troops in the world. But the blowing up their magazines, which were lodged in the church of St. Ninian, was done in a clumſey, and, indeed, barbarous, manner, for want of engineers. Several perſons happened to be in the church, and loſt their lives by the exploſion, and the lives of many more were endangered. When they came to Crief, they divided into two bodies, one of which marched towards Perth,

The rebels retreat before the duke.

dier Mordaunt with ſix battalions at Burrowſtounneſs. The dragoons quartered in the adjacent villages, and colonel Campbel, with the Argyleſhire men in front, towards the Avon. A conſiderable body of the rebels was then at Falkirk, and ſome of them appeared upon the hills between that place and Linlithgow. They give it out, they intend to ſtand another action with the king's force, but at the ſame time ſeemed very uneaſy for their baggage, which they were endeavouring to ſecure on the other ſide of the Forth. They were very much diſappointed at the defence general Blakeney had made at Stirling caſtle; and ſaid, it was impoſſible for man to take it. This morning early word was brought, that the rebels had retired to the Torwood, and intended to make a ſtand there; and that the reſt of them from Stirling would join them at this place. I reviewed the whole army this morning before we marched, who were in the higheſt ſpirits. The advanced parties of the rebels retired with precipitation on the approach of ours, and our foremoſt ſcouts brought in ſome ſtragglers, who ſaid the rebels were repaſſing the Forth in a good deal of confuſion, being afraid, as they ſaid, of another battle; becauſe of the encreaſe of our ſtrength, and the great deſertion there had been amongſt the clans. On our march, we heard two great reports like the blowing up of ſome magazine, and it was ſoon after confirmed to us; for the rebels had blown up a very large quantity of powder in the church of St. Ninian, before they went off. On my arrival here, I found all our wounded men, whom they had made priſoners in the late action, and in their retreat obliged to leave behind them: and I hear they have left their artillery at Stirling ſpiked up. As ſoon as I came here, I detached immediately brigadier Mordaunt, with the Argyleſhire men, and all the dragoons, in purſuit of them; though it is imagined moſt of them will eſcape at the ford of Frew, as they generally make a good deal of haſte when they are going off. They have loſt a great many men at Stirling, and ſaid it was all over with them, and they ſhall make to Montroſe. One circumſtance is particular, that lady Kilmarnock, who till laſt night had always ſtaid at Callender-houſe, went off with them. I propoſe to march to-morrow morning to Stirling, and there take meaſures for further quieting theſe parts of his majeſty's dominions.

I am, &c."

and

and the other by Dunkeld. Before they left Stirling, they had ſpiked up all the cannon they could, after having made a briſker attack than uſual upon the caſtle; but with no manner of effect. At Perth, which they entered on the 2d of February, they nailed up 13 pieces of braſs cannon, and threw the ſwivels taken out of the Hazard ſloop into the river. The young pretender was with the party that took the rout to Dunkeld, and lived five days at the duke of Athol's houſe at [illegible], without ſhewing the ſmalleſt concern for the apparent ruin of the deluded noblemen and gentlemen who had joined with him. He then ſet out for Inverneſs, which was appointed to be the rendezvous of his whole party. In his march thither, he took the ſmall fort at Ruthven on the 10th of February, and demoliſhed it. He then proceeded to Moy, the head of the Mac-Intoſhes, a conſiderable clan, of which ſome had joined him, though their chieftain was then in the ſervice of the government. Geo. II. 1745-6.

Lord Loudon, at this time, was at Inverneſs, at the head of 1500 or 2000 well-affected clans. He had been extreamly ſerviceable and active in ſurprizing and diſperſing ſmall bodies of the rebels in the very neſts of rebellion; and it was chiefly owing to him and the lord preſident, that the numbers of the rebels were not doubled from the northern parts. As his lordſhip had excellent intelligence, when he underſtood that Charles was at Moy, which is but a ſmall diſtance from Inverneſs, he marched thither with indefatigable pains, at the head of a choſen party, under the cloud of night, to ſurprize him. This he had very near effected, when an unlucky ſhot being diſcharged, alarmed the rebels, and the pretender, who was juſt going to bed, made his eſcape. His lordſhip, upon this, was obliged to return to Inverneſs, where the rebels, who had very quickly collected their forces, and were greatly ſuperior to him in numbers, in their turn almoſt ſurprized him. He eſcaped, however, northward with his party by the ferry. Upon this the rebels laid ſiege to Fort George, the citadel of Inverneſs; and being joined by ſome deſerters from lord Loudon, on the third day of the ſiege the garriſon was made priſoners, and the place was ſurrendered by the governor, major Grant, who was afterwards cenſured for the ſame by a court martial, and pronounced incapable of again ſerving in his majeſty's army. This fort ought, undoubtedly, to have made a better reſiſtance, and the loſs of it was of vaſt prejudice to the royal cauſe. It was ſurrendered on the 21ſt of February, and a ſtrong detachment of the rebels were ſent off in purſuit of lord Loudon, whoſe

Lord Loudon endeavours to take the pretender, but is forced to retreat to Inverneſs.

Fort George taken.

Geo. II. 1745-6. whoſe ſchemes were intirely diſconcerted by the ſurrender of the fort. Upon the 24th, Charles ſent off a party to beſiege Fort Auguſtus, which was likewiſe ſurrendered to them, though garriſoned by three companies of Guiſe's regiment, who were made priſoners. As to fort George, they blew up all its fortifications, in their uſual bulkward way: but they converted Fort Auguſtus into a priſon, where they confined ſuch of the king's troops as fell into their hands, till the day before the deciſive battle of Culloden, when it was blown up likewiſe.

Miſtakes of the rebels. Thoſe little ſucceſſes, which were always magnified by the party, made the flame of rebellion once more blaze abroad; and it began to be diſcovered, that their retreat northwards was neither ſo impolitic nor ſo ruinous to them as it firſt ſeemed to be. The truth is, it was owing to the blind preſumption of the young pretender himſelf, that his attempt, at this time, was not attended with much more fatal conſequences than it afterwards was. Poſſeſſed, as he was, of Inverneſs, had he fortified the banks of the Spey, he might have diſputed every inch of ground with his purſuers, till he had led them into countries where their cavalry could not act, where their artillery could not march, and where their men could not ſubſiſt. This was the ſcheme of the moſt ſenſible of his party. But though the execution of this ſcheme, in the condition he was in, might have been worthy the greateſt general, he rejected it as mean and diſhonourable; and influenced by his Iriſh counſellors, he declared publickly, he was determined to retire no further northwards than Inverneſs.

The Dutch auxiliaries, for the reaſons already aſſigned, having been ordered back to Holland, the 6000 Heſſians, who had been ordered to Scotland, on the 8th of February landed at Leith, under the command of prince Frederick of Heſſe; and about the 13th, all of them diſembarked. His royal highneſs the duke was then at Perth, from whence he returned to Leith, to concert meaſures with the prince of Heſſe. He had been detained in his march ſome time by repairing the bridge at Stirling, and providing neceſſaries for the march of the army northwards; but having ſettled the rout with the prince of Heſſe, he returned to Perth, where he put the whole of his troops into motion on the 20th of February in four diviſions, with orders for the whole to be at Aberdeen on the 1ſt of March. At firſt it was imagined, by his royal highneſs the duke, that there could be no neceſſity for the Heſſian troops to act in Scotland; and orders had actually

The duke marches his army to Aberdeen.

ually been given for their re-embarkation. But ships, with Geo. II.
, money, and ammunition, every day dropping from France 1745-6.
nto the ports in Scotland that were in poſſeſſion of the rebels,
nd certain accounts being received that their numbers were
aſtly encreaſed, his royal highneſs thought proper to coun-
termand the re-embarkation, and to order that the tranſports,
who brought them over, ſhould take on board the Dutch
troops for Holland. The prince of Heſſe was attended by
the earl of Crawford, a nobleman of ſmall fortune, but of Account of the earl of Crawford.
great ſpirit. He had ſeen more ſervice than any nobleman
of his years in Europe, and had been at infinite pains to ſtudy
the military art. Upon this occaſion, he took the command
of St. George's dragoons, and the remains of Naizon's and
Hamilton's regiments of dragoons, and the duke wrote to
the prince of Heſſe, to march immediately four battalions to
Perth, and two to Stirling, that there might be no further
occaſion to diminiſh the numbers of the main army under
the duke, by ſending them on detached ſervices. The duke's
army arrived at the time propoſed at Aberdeen, and by the
advance of the Heſſians to Perth, the Scotch Fuzileers, which
had been left there, and Bligh's regiment, had liberty to join
the duke, who loſt no time, after he arrived at Aberdeen,
in putting his army in a proper poſture for advancing againſt
the rebels. Having informed himſelf minutely of all their Great care and activity of the duke.
ways of fighting, and of the cauſes, to which the former
misfortunes of the king's troops were owing, he was in his
own perſon indefatigable, at that ſevere ſeaſon of the year,
in training his troops to a proper diſcipline, for obviating all
future inconveniencies. As the duke of Athol's eſtate had
ſuffered ſeverely, 500 men under ſir Andrew Agnew, were
ordered to take poſt at Blair, for the protection of it; and
though he was warmly attacked by lord George Murray, he
defended the place.

In the mean while, the rebels were more than ordinarily Succeſſes of the rebels in the North.
active. It was with difficulty that the earl of Loudon and the
lord-preſident, who were very ill-ſupported by the men under
them, eſcaped the purſuit of the rebels under Burriſdale, a
notorious partizan, by getting on board the Vulture ſloop of
war. The rebels harraſſed and plundered the eſtates and
houſes of all the noblemen and gentlemen in the neighbour-
ing parts, who were known to be well affected to his
majeſty; nor did even they, who had obſerved a ſtrict
neutrality, eſcape. They were at this time in poſſeſſion of
ſome of the moſt fertile provinces in Scotland, particularly
of Murray. They had money to pay their friends for all

Geo II. 1745-6.

the provisions they wanted, and they had [illegible] from their enemies, without paying. But [illegible] had the advantage of being perfectly well [illegible] the country, in which they had but too many [illegible] and secret, friends. The noblemen and gentlemen, who appeared the most warm for his majesty's service, either did not, or could not, exert themselves, as the chiefs of the rebels did, though their properties in the country were twenty times greater than those of the disaffected. In short, a deceitful neutrality, even while they were protected by the duke's army, was all that could be obtained from all the Tay; and those who were in earnest attached to our royal cause, could do very little service, through the aversion of their tenants and dependents, to act effectually against the rebels. Roy Stuart drove all the people of quality and note who had not joined them to Aberdeen, where they were protected by the duke. But all the authority of his royal highness could not make the clans that lay between Fort William and Inverness, do any thing effectual for his majesty's service. His royal highness, therefore, was obliged to employ the regular troops against their detached parties, and ordered major-general Bland to attack Roy Stuart, who lay with about 1000 men at Strathbogie, and brigadier Mordaunt to support him with four battalions, and four pieces of cannon. Bland had along with him the foot regiments of the Royals, Barrels, Price's, and Cholmondeley's, with Kingston's horse, and Cobham's dragoons; and he had in his front, the Campbels, and about 100 of the Grants. But though Bland advanced with all possible secrecy and expedition, the rebels had notice of his approach, and retired, while some of the most forward of the royal volunteers had the pleasure of pursuing them, and discharging a few pistols upon their rear. The king's troops thought that Roy Stuart with his men would have passed the Spey, and the weather not permitting the king's troops to pursue further, a small detachment of Kingston's dragoons, and a captain's command of highlanders, were sent to take post at Keith. But they were surprized, and made prisoners by the rebels, as were several others of the royal parties, in Athol, and elsewhere.

General Bland marches against the rebels in Strathbogie, who escape.

This alacrity of the rebels, and the sudden turn which affairs had taken in their favour, [illegible] ing in a great measure to either a real or pretended scheme, but most likely the latter) which Lovat at this time published, for transporting all the rebelliously disposed highlanders to America, and which, he said, the government had approved of. This for-

Artifice of Lovat.

gery

grey received ſome countenance from the party of highlanders which had deſerted at London, having been impoſitically ſent abroad to America, after the execution of their [illegible] ; and it is incredible with what horror many poor wretches, who believed it, were ſeized, and with what eagerneſs they ſought for protection in rebellion. They were likewiſe greatly favoured by the inability which his royal highneſs found himſelf under, of marching to Inverneſs, through the ſwelling of the rivers, particularly the Spey, the moſt rapid of any in Scotland. The Heſſians, however, conducted by the earl of Crawford, at the head of the dragoons, after advancing through vaſt diſadvantages, in which they maintained a kind of hedge-fight with the rebels, who fired upon them on every ſide, drove lord George Murray, (who had ſurprized and cut off a great number of the king's forces, particularly of the Campbels, at Rannoch, Blairfith, and Kynnichan) from Blair, and the ſtrong paſs of Killicranky, and obliged them to return to Inverneſs. Captain Caroline Scott at this time commanded in Fort William, which likewiſe was beſieged by the rebels, but made ſo brave a defence, that they were obliged to raiſe the ſiege, with the loſs of ſome of their men, and moſt of their artillery.

Lord George Murray retreats to Inverneſs.

See vol. xiii. p. 201.

It is incredible, with how much addreſs, and with what a mixture of truth and falſhood, the rebels at this time palliated their loſſes, and magnified their advantages. Letters from the prince of Campo Florido, the Spaniſh ambaſſador, at the French court, and from the duke de Bouillon, containing the moſt magnificent promiſes of aſſiſtance and ſupport, were publiſhed and diſperſed. A paper was printed, to juſtify, upon prudential conſiderations, their retreat from Stirling, and from Blair, without hazarding a battle; and the reaſon they aſſigned for retreating to Inverneſs, was, that their troops might have ſome repoſe and ſhelter, it being impoſſible to perſuade them to encamp in the night time; tho' they were provided with tents, which they had taken at Falkirk.

His royal highneſs, on the other hand, while he was obliged to lie at Aberdeen, continued indefatigable in exerciſing his troops, and providing for the defence of the country. His army was, at that time, divided into three cantonments; the whole firſt line, conſiſting of ſix battalions, the duke of Kingſton's horſe, and Cobham's dragoons, were at Strathbogie, within twelve miles of the Spey, under the command of lord Albemarle and major-general Bland. The reſerve, conſiſting of three battalions, with four pieces of cannon, under

Diſpoſitions of the duke's army.

London Gazette.

Geo. II. 1745-6. under the command of brigadier-general Mordaunt, [illegible] at Old Meldrum, half way between Strathbogie and [illegible]; and the whole ſecond line, conſiſting of the remaining [illegible] battalions, and lord Mark Kerr's regiment of dragoons, [illegible] ſtill at Aberdeen. By this diſpoſition, the country [illegible] protected, and the rebels were forced to call in all their [illegible] vanced parties, and were obliged to retreat, in [illegible] foragers, to the north of the Spey. The [illegible] likewiſe diſarmed all the diſaffected in the [illegible], and gave orders for ſeizing the [illegible], and burning the houſes of all the inhabitants of [illegible], who ſtill continued with the rebels, which had a very good effect. He next put the nominal earl of [illegible], father to the lord Ogilvie, under arreſt in his own [illegible], and obliged his tenants to ſurrender their arms, and [illegible] and ſeized ſome magazines of the rebels near Aberdeen. He likewiſe ordered major Lauſuſille, with 300 men, [illegible] to Glenmuick, which was one of the moſt rebellious parts, to attack all whom he found in arms againſt the government, and to burn the habitations of ſuch who had left them, and were with the rebels.

Ibid.

The rebels land at Dornoch,

The affairs of the government, however, were not managed ſo proſperouſly North of Inverneſs; for though the Vulture ſloop and ſeveral of his majeſty's ſhips were ſtationed along that coaſt, yet the rebels having procured ſome boats in the Murray Frith, and being favoured with a thick fog, found means to land at Dornoch in Sutherland, near which, at a place called Little Ferry, they ſurprized and beat the Sutherland militia. The duke of Perth, the earl of Cromartie, an unhappy nobleman of that country, who had been over-perſuaded to join the rebellion, and Clanronald, were the heads of this enterprize, which ended in ſurprizing and making priſoners, 60 of lord Loudon's regiment, among them, major Mackenzie, captain Sutherland of Forſe, the laird of Mackintoſh, and another officer.

and ſurprize the Sutherland militia.

The Hazard ſloop retaken.

But this loſs was more than made good, by the retaking of the Hazard ſloop, by his majeſty's ſhip of war the Sheerneſs, after an engagement of five hours, off Tong Bay. But the Hazard, after having loſt upwards of 30 men, and as many wounded, ran on ſhore, and 156 common men and officers landed, tho' all of them, with about 12,000 guineas, were made priſoners by the lord Ray, and ſome officers and well-affected gentlemen, at the head of a party of his tenants, and 80 of lord Loudon's regiment. As to the ſloop itſelf, it was likewiſe taken, with a large quantity of arms

and ammunition on board, by the Sheerneſs. The Sheerneſs then ſail'd to the iſland of Orkney, where they took twelve ſhips [illegible] a privateer, that had been employed in the ſervice of the rebels, and which had another conſiderable quantity of arms and ammunition on board. Amongſt the priſoners on board the Sheerneſs, were ſeveral Spaniſh officers, the reſt being moſtly in the French ſervice, but of Iriſh or Scotch extraction. The accounts of the continuance of the embarkations at Dunkirk, and other French ports, which his royal highneſs received by their means, determined him, at all adventures, to draw all his army together, and advance againſt the main body of the rebels at Inverneſs. Geo. II. 1745-6.

Accordingly, on the 8th of April, the duke marched from Aberdeen, and on the 11th, he was joined at Cullen, by the troops under the earl of Albemarle, and all the detached poſts of the army. Next day they marched to the Spey, where about 3000 of the rebels were poſted, upon the further bank, amongſt whom was the lord Balmerino. The duke begins his march to Inverneſs.

A council of war, ſome time before, had been held amongſt the rebel chiefs, where it had been debated, whether they ſhould not diſpute the paſſage of the Spey, which, as they were furniſhed with artillery, and as the banks of the river were ſteep and difficult, would have been very practicable, and might have coſt the king's army a great deal of blood. But the preſumptuouſneſs of the rebels was ſo incredibly great, that notwithſtanding all the arguments urged for diſputing the paſſage, it was determined to leave it open, for this reaſon; "that the more of the king's army, who ſhould ford the river, the fewer would return, as they did not doubt of cutting off the whole." It was even propoſed amongſt them, that as a battle now ſeemed inevitable, a party ſhould be diſpatched, to get between the Spey and the king's troops, and cut off their retreat. The king's army, therefore, had a eaſy and unoppoſed paſſage over the Spey, while the rebels retired towards Elgin, to which the king's army advanced, and from thence to Nairn, the rebels ſtill retreating before them, towards Inverneſs. and paſſes the Spey without oppoſition.

The army halted for a day at Nairn. Another council of war, in the mean time, was held by the rebels, who began now to be a little more ſenſible of their danger, than they were before the king's army paſſed the Spey; and here it was reſolved, to march by night to Nairn, and to attack the king's army, who they ſuppoſed to be buried in ſleep, after celebrating the anniverſary of the duke's birth. This ſcheme was feaſible; and lord George Murray undertook to conduct Fruitleſs attempt of the rebels.

Geo. II. 1746.

conduct it. The rebels at this time lay at Culloden, and they had a march of upwards of ten miles (being obliged to take a circuit) to Nairn. They performed the whole however, with admirable ſecrecy, till they came within two miles of the royal army, when through the darkneſs of the night, one of their diviſions loſt their way. But the other advanced to within a mile of the king's troops, when lord George Murray, apprehending from the neighing of a horſe, that their march was diſcovered, and perceiving that one of their diviſions had either fallen back, or loſt their way, ordered a retreat. The pretender underſtanding this, called out in great paſſion, that he was betrayed, and the whole of them returned unperceived, by eight o'clock in the morning, to their camp at Culloden.

Though the incident of this fruitleſs march was not taken notice of in the account, publiſhed by the government, of the victory at Culloden, yet the fact is undoubted, and the fatigue the rebels had endured, contributed greatly to the ſucceſs of that day. For, early on the 16th of April, the whole royal army marched from Nairn in four columns, three of them, formed by the foot of five battalions each, and one of the horſe on the left, the artillery and baggage marching on the right of the firſt column. After marching about eight miles, the advanced guards perceived the rebels at ſome diſtance on the left, making a motion towards them, upon which the king's army immediately formed, and marched within a mile of the rebels, whom they perceived to be poſted behind ſome old walls and hutts, in a line with Culloden-houſe. The order of battle of the king's army, as commanded by his royal highneſs, which is very confuſedly related in the London Gazette, publiſhed upon that occaſion, was, according to the moſt diſtinct accounts that could be obtained, as follows. The three battalions of the ſecond line deſiled to the left of the reſpective battalions in the van, that is to ſay, Barrel's to the left of Munro's; Scotch Fuzileers to the left of Price's; and Cholmondely's on the left of the Royals: then marching up, formed the front line of ſix battalions, between each of them two pieces of cannon. At the head of this line and in the center the earl of Albemarle commanded; on the right wing three ſquadrons of horſe, commanded by major-general Bland; on the left three other ſquadrons, commanded by lord Ancram. The ſecond line conſiſted of five battalions, placed to face the openings of the front line, with three pieces of cannon placed between the firſt and ſecond battalion, on the right and left of the

London Gazette. The battle of Culloden.

Order of battle on both ſides.

ſame

ſame line, in order that if the enemy either broke through the centers or outflanked either the right or left of the front, they might conveniently play upon them. Geo. II. 1746.

To ſupport both, and as a final reſerve, were placed the remaining four battalions, winged on the right and left by Kingſton's horſe.

The rebel army formed their front in thirteen diviſions, being ſo many clans, under their reſpective chiefs, with four pieces of cannon placed before their center, and the ſame number on each wing. The center was headed by lord John Drummond; the right wing by lord George Murray; and the left by the perſon who called himſelf the duke of Perth. To ſupport the front line, covered by a ſtone walls on the right, was diſpoſed Fitz-James's horſe, and four companies of French picquets; on the left one body of horſe, made up with the young pretender's guards, ſome huſſars, and the Perthſhire ſquadron, and five companies of lord John Drummond's foot. Open to the center of the front line was the young pretender, placed with his body-guards. In his rear a line of reſerve, conſiſting of three columns: the firſt, on the left, commanded by lord Kilmarnock; the center column, by lord Lewis Gordon and Glenbucket, and the right by Roy Stuart. Next, was the regiment of Perth and Ogilvie ſtationed, as the final reſerve.

About two o'clock the rebels began to fire, being ſupported on the right by ſome old walls, in a line with Culloden-houſe. The fire was very ill ſerved, while that of the king's troops did great execution. General Hawley and general Bland went to the left with two regiments of dragoons, in order to fall upon the right flank of the rebels, who immediately turned their whole force to the left of the royal army, where Barrel's and Monro's regiments were drawn up, and where they endeavoured to flank the firſt line of the royaliſts; and as the whole line moved to the attack at once, they ſomewhat outflanked Barrel's upon the left; and the moraſs, which was upon the right of the royaliſts, being now ended, his royal highneſs ordered Kingſton's horſe from the reſerve, to flank the right of the firſt line; and Pulteney's regiment of foot, to the right of the royals. Theſe were attacked both faintly and irregularly by the rebels, who in the mean time loſt their great ſecurity of the old walls upon their right, the dragoons who marched with Hawley, having pulled them down, and broken in with great fury upon their backs. The attack of the rebels, however, upon Barrel's and Monro's regiments, was very furious; but the

Geo. II. 1746. the royaliſts being ſuſtained by Wolfe's, Bligh's, and Semple's regiments, ſoon drove them back with ſuch ſlaughter, that there was ſcarce a private man or officer in Barrel's and Monro's regiments, whole bayonet was not dyed in blood. By this time, Kingſton's horſe, who had advanced to the right flank of the royal army, attacked the left of the rebels, and breaking through them, and with Hawley's horſe, who had done the ſame by the oppoſite wing, in the very center of the ground where the rebel army had been drawn up. It was now no longer a fight, but a carnage. By the beſt accounts, the young pretender, though his body of reſerve was fully intire, and though he had it in his power, by rallying his men, to have made ſome impreſſion upon the king's horſe, by a vigorous fire, yet he gallopped off, without attempting to make any reſiſtance; though it is certain, that not above four hundred of his men were then killed. As to the main body of the rebels, they fled different ways, but met death in them all; it being impoſſible, and, indeed, improper, to ſtop the fury of the horſe and dragoons, who purſued them; and therefore, about two thouſand were killed upon the field of battle, and between that and Inverneſs, to which great numbers of them fled.

The numbers on each ſide, who fought this battle, were variouſly reported; perhaps that account is neareſt the truth, that makes each army to conſiſt of about 8000 men; but in all other circumſtances, there was a prodigious diſparity. The diſpoſition made by his royal highneſs was ſo excellent, that it was next to morally impoſſible he could have been defeated; while that of the rebels, who truſted to the old walls on their left, and outflanking the king's army upon their right, betrayed all the ſymptoms of confuſion and inexperience. The royaliſts had great advantages in the goodneſs of their arms, of their councils, and the ſkilful ſerving of their artillery; but above all, in the notion with which his royal highneſs had deeply impreſſed them, that the bayonet was a weapon far preferable to the broad ſword, and that they needed but to ſtand firm, and keep their ranks as they advanced, to be aſſured of victory. Theſe orders being punctually obſerved, rendered the royaliſts impenetrable, by that impetuoſity, upon which the rebels chiefly depended, and which, upon the left wing of the king's army, was indeed amazing. The attack upon Barrel's regiment was made by lord George Murray, who renewed it three times, to wipe out ſome ſuſpicions

picions, which the young pretender had dropt, about his fidelity during the laſt night's march. Geo. II. 1746.

The total of the killed and wounded of the king's army, according to the London Gazette, were 310, amongſt whom was lord Robert Kerr, ſon to the marquis of Lothian, whoſe death was bravely revenged by his brother the lord Ancram, who was ſent with the horſe in the purſuit. All the ordnance and ſtores belonging to the rebels were taken, as were a great number of firelocks and ſwords; and many of their officers, amongſt whom was the earl of Kilmarnock, received quarter, and were made priſoners. Loſs on both ſides.

The king's army advancing from the field of battle to Inverneſs, the French officers and ſoldiers, who had never once engaged, ſurrendered themſelves priſoners to major-general Bland, and gave their parole, not to ſtir out of Inverneſs, without leave from his royal highneſs.

This victory appeared every day more and more deciſive, and the priſons were ſcarce capacious enough to hold the number of the priſoners, who were either taken, or had ſurrendered themſelves priſoners to the king's forces. Both ſides endeavoured to prepoſſeſs the public in their favour, by giving out reports as facts, for which there was little or no foundation. The royaliſts pretended, that the rebels, the night before the battle, had given orders that no quarter ſhould be given to the king's troops, but this appeared afterwards to be abſolutely falſe. The rebels, on the other hand, pretended, that great numbers of their party had been killed in cold blood; that women and children underwent the ſame fate, and that the whole country was one continued ſcene of burning and murder. That the king's ſoldiers were exaſperated to a great degree, by the diſgraces and fatigues they had undergone, may reaſonably be ſuppoſed; but their reſentment was aggravated, at ſeeing the deſpicable appearance which the rebels, their habitations, and their country, made. It is likewiſe reaſonable to think, that little favour would be ſhewn to thoſe who were known to be either actual agents in the rebellion, or ſecret abettors. Above 6000 of the rebels had actually gone off the field of battle, whoſe houſes, dwellings, families, and eſtates, lay in a manner adjacent to the field of battle. As the king's army, therefore, was now in the neſt of the rebellion, it is not to be wondered, that ſeverities were inflicted upon the perſons and poſſeſſions, and perhaps, ſome upon the families of the rebels; but the ſtories of the enormous barbarities committed Conſequences of the victory.

Geo. II. 1746.

mitted by order of his royal highneſs, were deſtitute of all foundation.

Miſtakes of the rebels.

When one conſiders the event of this rebellion, so unlike to its commencement, one cannot help concluding, that a ſignal miſmanagement attended the rebels; and indeed the moſt ſenſible amongſt them owned, that after the [illegible] by the advice of the French and Iriſh officers under him, began, as he did, to regiment, officer, and exercise the Highlanders in a manner to which they were ſtrangers, they were intirely diſconcerted, and loſt great part of that [illegible] which they ſhewed at the battle of Preſton Pans.

Earl of Cromarty and his party taken.

About the time the battle of Culloden was fought, the earl of Cromartie, who had been at Caithneſs in the [illegible] ſervice, returning from thence, was intercepted by a party of the Sutherland militia, and ſome of lord Reay's people, at Dunrobin, a houſe of the earl of Sutherland; and he and his ſon, ten officers, with about 150 of his followers, were made priſoners, and ſent to Inverneſs. Among the other priſoners made after the battle of Culloden was one Boyer, who called himſelf the marquis de St. Guilles, and affected to paſs for an ambaſſador from the court of France to the young pretender. It is incredible what effect this high ſounding title had in keeping up the ſpirits not only of the rebels, but of all their party and well-wiſhers, though the perſon who aſſumed it was no other than a relation or dependent of cardinal Tencin; and he had, by his deſire, or through curioſity or affection, attended the young pretender through the whole of his expedition, but without any other character than that of a French captain in the marine regiment; and his name is found under that deſignation amongſt thoſe of the other French officers and ſoldiers who ſurrendered themſelves to his royal highneſs.

Other priſoners.

But the moſt extraordinary part of the priſoners were four ladies, who had been very inſtrumental in procuring friends to the pretender; and one of them, the lady Mac-Intoſh, though her huſband was at that very time an officer in the government's ſervice, had brought to the field a great number of his clan, who had done the rebellion great ſervice. Amongſt the other priſoners was lord Balmerino, who had ſurrendered himſelf to a party of the Grants, and they delivered him to the duke. The marquis of Tullibardine ſurrendered himſelf in the weſt of Scotland; and being firſt committed to the caſtle of Dumbarton, he was from thence ſent to the Tower of London, where he died. The French officers and ſoldiers, to the number of 310, were ſhipped off from Inverneſs to Newcaſtle. Lord Loudon, who was

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in the isle of Skey, at the head of 1300 men of the Argyleshire militia and the independent companies, was ordered to land in the country of the Clanronalds, and from thence to march to Fort Augustus, while lord Cobham's regiment was ordered back to Montrose, to guard the sea coasts. Lord Ancram, with lord Mark Kerr's regiment, was ordered to the eastern coasts; and general Mordaunt was dispatched to Perth, with a large body of troops, to replace the Hessians, who were now ordered to embark with all possible expedition for Flanders. Geo. II. 1746.

The behaviour of the young pretender after the battle, was full of that levity that had been so remarkable in him through the whole of his expedition. Having galloped off at the head of some horse, he crossed the Nairn, where he was entertained with the dismal spectacle of the remains of his right wing best rewing all the road he went, and expiring under the most excrutiating wounds. Lord Lovat, in great anxiety for the fate of the day, was at the house of one Gortuleg, and there the young pretender came. Lovat, who had already heard of the defeat, advised him to return and rally his men, and to retire with them amongst the mountains. The other seemed to approve of this council, though he was far from intending to follow it; for he dismissed all his train, except a few faithful followers, (and those too some days after he dismissed) and though about 2000 of his Highlanders had, with unparalleled fidelity, assembled themselves at Fort Augustus, as a body of the Lowlanders did at Ruthven, and sent to their pretended prince to know what they were to do; his answer was, that they should disperse, and every man shift for himself. An incident happened, however, about this time, which gave fresh spirits to the party; for about 40,000 Lewis d'Ors in specie, were landed in a French ship, and came into the hands of the pretender, or his secretary Murray. Upon this a meeting was held, at a place called Morlaig, an island near the house of Macdonald of Glengary, to which lord Lovat had fled, and Murray the secretary, his lordship, Lochiel, Barrefdale, Roy Stewart, old Glenbucket, doctor Cameron, and some others, were present. His lordship, as a person of the greatest weight and quality, was first asked his opinion, how they were to proceed; and he gave it like a man of spirit, that the only thing for the gentlemen there to do, was to raise a competent number of men to protect their country, families, and cattle, and endeavour to defend themselves. This proposal was agreed to; and it was resolved, that 3000, or 3500 men, (and these, they said, could easily be subsisted) should be raised. Accordingly money was distributed

Behaviour and flight of the young pretender.

Money landed for his use.

Consultation about renewing the rebellion, which is totally suppress.

Murray's narrative, Lovat's tryal, p. 82.

Geo. II. 1746. distributed upon the ſpot, and ten days pay for 400 Fraſers, which was to be the contingent of that name, was ordered to be ſent to lord Lovat's eldeſt ſon. Had this project taken effect, it might have raiſed a freſh rebellion. The Macphersons, to the number of 3 or 400, had not been at the battle of Culloden, but were upon their march, and ſtill in arms. The Macleans were ready to riſe; and 4 or 500 men, about the ſtrength of the money that had been diſtributed by Murray, were actually aſſembled in arms about Lochiel's houſe. But the deſpondency of the young pretender, and the activity of his royal highneſs the duke, defeated all theſe meaſures. The former, according to a journal, which was afterwards publiſhed, or at leaſt approved of, by himſelf, came, April 17, to Inverary caſtle, and thence to Glenpean; and on the 18th, to Mewball. But by this time his royal highneſs had made diſpoſitions for marching from Inverneſs to Fort Auguſtus, with 15 battalions and Kingſton's horſe, while lieutenant general Campbel was ſent to Lochabar, to ſuppreſs any rebels who might be in arms there; and his royal highneſs iſſued a proclamation for ſeizing all rebels and their arms.

The wiſdom of his royal highneſs's meaſures, were ſoon ſeen by their effects. On the 13th of May, Macdonald of Glenco, and Appin, two very conſiderable chieftains amongſt the rebels, ſurrendered their arms to general Campbel, and ſubmitting themſelves to the king's mercy, ordered all their followers to return and do the like. On the 24th of June, his royal highneſs arrived, with the troops under his command, at Fort Auguſtus, where he was joined by lord Loudon, who with his Highlanders and ſome regular troops, advanced againſt the party that had been aſſembled at Lochiel's houſe, and had intirely diſperſed them, every one being ordered to ſhift for himſelf. Upon this, the Camerons ſubmitted to the royal mercy, as the Macphersons had likewiſe done to general Mordaunt in his march to Perth, while lord Loudon marched into Badenoch, and diſarmed all the rebels there. In ſhort, In a few days, not above 50 of the rebels continued in one body, and thoſe too rather for the purpoſe of plundering for ſubſiſtence, than for any deſign to oppoſe the king's troops. Soon after his royal highneſs, having extinguiſhed all appearances of the rebellion, returned to London, amidſt the acclamations of a grateful people.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

King's ſpeech—Negotiation with the Dutch—Conſequences of the rebellion—Trials and executions of the rebels—Van Hoye's letter to the duke of Newcaſtle—Caſe of Lord Traquair—Lovat's trial and execution—Campaign in the Netherlands—Bruſſels, Antwerp, Mons, Charleroy, Namur, and other places taken by the French—The battle of Lier—Deſigns againſt Canada—laid aſide—D'Anville's unfortunate expedition to North America—Expedition to Britany—Campaign in Italy—The great ſucceſs of the Auſtrians—The battle of Placentia—Death of Philip V. king of Spain—The battle of Rotto Freddo—The retreat of Don Philip's army—Gage diſplaced from his command—Genoa abandoned—The terms preſcribed for its ſurrender—Affairs of the Weſt and Eaſt Indies—Madraſs taken by the French—New ſeſſion of parliament—Money granted—Surpriſing eſcape of the young pretender to France, from his own journal.

ON the 14th of January, his majeſty came to the houſe of peers, where he made a ſpeech upon the general ſtate of affairs in Europe: that upon the opening of the parliament, relating only to the circumſtances of the rebellion. Geo. II. 1746.

King's ſpeech to parliament.

"The election of the emperor, ſaid he, which I very zealouſly promoted, was an event of great importance, not only to the houſe of Auſtria, but to the liberties of Europe in general. I did alſo, during the courſe of the laſt year, exert my utmoſt endeavours to bring about an accommodation between the empreſs, the king of Poland, and the king of Pruſſia; and laid a proper foundation for it by the convention made between me and the king of Pruſſia. This great work being at length perfected under my mediation, by the treaty lately concluded at Dreſden, the interior tranquillity of Germany amongſt the princes of the empire is now reſtored. My next care has been, and ſhall be continued to be applied, to improve this accommodation to the beſt advantage, by procuring an immediate ſuccour to be ſent into Italy, and ſuch a ſtrength for the defence of the United Provinces, as may

Geo. II. 1746. preſerve that republic, the antient and natural ally of this kingdom, and one main ſupport of the proteſtant cauſe, from the deſtruction with which it is threatened, as well as to obtain a ſafe and honourable peace. The States General have made the moſt preſſing inſtances to me, to aſſiſt them at this difficult conjuncture. The imminent dangers to which they are at preſent expoſed, which do ſo nearly affect the ſafety of Great Britain, as well as the very being of Holland, call for our moſt ſerious attention; for the intereſts of the two nations are ſo united, that whatſoever brings ruin upon the one, muſt in conſequence be attended with the moſt fatal miſchiefs to the other. Theſe reaſons have induced me to aſſure the States, that I will, to the utmoſt of my power, according to the circumſtances of my own dominions, co-operate with them, towards oppoſing the further progreſs of our enemies in the Netherlands, and procuring a proper ſecurity for the republic againſt the ambitious and deſtructive deſigns of France. In order to this neceſſary end, meaſures are now actually concerting between me and the States, for furniſhing this aſſiſtance on my part, as early and effectual as poſſible, and for the making ſuch augmentation of their preſent forces, as their own immediate preſervation, and the neceſſity of affairs abſolutely require."

"The great advantages which we have received from our naval ſtrength, in protecting the commerce of my ſubjects, and intercepting and diſtreſſing that of our enemies, have been happily experienced by the former, and ſeverely felt by the latter. I am, therefore, determined to be particularly attentive to this important ſervice, and to have ſuch a fleet at ſea early in the ſpring, as may be ſufficient to defend ourſelves, and effectually to annoy our enemies."

Conduct of the French towards the Dutch.

It is almoſt needleſs to acquaint the reader, that this ſpeech was anſwered with very warm and dutiful addreſſes from both houſes of parliament. But matters did not go on ſo ſmoothly in the cabinet. The ſtate of affairs in Europe had been dreadfully affected by the rebellion in Great Britain; and the Dutch pretended now to be ſenſible of the weak, trifling, part they had acted. The French king, upon pretence of ſome contraventions committed by the Dutch, revoked the privileges granted them in point of commerce by the treaty of Utrecht, and by the treaty of 1739. This, at firſt, alarmed them, and they made ſeveral advances to prevent a declaration of war, with which they were threatened by France, from taking place. For this purpoſe count Waſſenaer was ſent to negotiate at Paris. But all he was able to obtain,

obtain, was only conditional promiſes; and the more ſenſible part of their republic ſaw the neceſſity of ſomething deciſive being done. Count Boetſelaer, one of their ableſt men, was ſent to England, with a propoſal, if the parliament of England would ſtand by the Republic, to enter thoroughly into the war. The Engliſh cabinet was divided upon this point. The earl of Granville, whoſe abilities in foreign affairs were deſervedly held by his maſter in high eſteem, was for the moſt vigorous meaſures, and for embracing every opportunity of reviving the true ſpirit of the great alliance that had reduced the power of France under king William and queen Anne; a principle from which his majeſty was far from being averſe, provided it could have been done conſiſtently with the intereſts of his people. Geo. II. 1746.

Diviſions in the court of England.

But the behaviour of the Dutch was far from promiſing any hearty concurrence on their part, ſufficient to juſtify the miniſtry in loading the people with the additional taxes that ſo vaſt a ſcheme, as they pretended to lay down, required. The ſhips which commodore Barnet had taken from the French in the Eaſt-Indies, had been ſold at Batavia; and being ſent from thence to Amſterdam, they were there claimed by the French court, and tamely given up by the Dutch. They had likewiſe ſubmitted not only to the inactivity, but to the recall, of their auxiliaries, that had been ſent to Britain; which the nation looked upon as a groſs evaſion of faith, and an inſult upon its own underſtanding. At the ſame time they were actually treating (as has been already obſerved) in the moſt abject terms, at the court of France, who had, as a mighty favour, been prevailed upon to offer them a neutrality. Add to all this, that hitherto they had always been deficient in their quotas that they brought into the field; their beſt troops were tied up from acting, by ſhameful capitulations, and they had failed in every engagement they were under with England.

Van Haren, and ſome other patriots amongſt the Dutch, were ſenſible of the truth of all this, and wanted to unite their republic with Great Britain by a ſincere ſpirited confidence, and not only by adding 30,000 men to the full complement of their troops, but by giving the command of them to the prince of Orange. But they had failed in this, and prince Waldeck, a foreigner, was appointed to command their army. In order to do ſomewhat effectual, he demanded to be put at the head of 109,000 men; and having given his plan in to the States General, they tranſmitted it to Boetſelaer, their miniſter at London, where it had

and amongſt the Dutch.

Geo II. 1746. been ſo well approved of, that it produced the laſt ſpeech to parliament. But at the ſame time it required proportionable efforts to be made on the part of Great Britain.

The miniſtry, for the cauſes already mentioned, did not think the Dutch were to be relied on, before they gave ſome further proofs of their ſincerity: and though they were very well inclined to the plan ſent over to England, yet they thought it neceſſary that there ſhould be a perfect unanimity in parliament, before it was carried into execution. The neceſſity of this was the greater, on account of the rebellion then raging in the bowels of the kingdom; and it was propoſed to make ſome farther comprehenſion of parties with regard to the places at court. This meeting with an oppoſition in the cabinet, a ſtop was put to the granting the ſupplies, and conſequently to all the foreign operations of the government. Lord Harrington, upon whoſe abilities there was great dependence, writ to Boetſelaer and Hopp, the other Dutch miniſters at London, a very preciſe, ſenſible letter, repreſenting, "That the revenues of England had ſuffered great prejudices from the rebellion, and from the apprehenſions which the people were under of an invaſion, and therefore it was impracticable for his majeſty to raiſe money for the war, in the ſame proportion as he had formerly done. That the ſecurity of the Netherlands was to them a domeſtic conſideration, but that it was a foreign, though important, one to England." He then obſerved, "that the States General, by evading, as they had done, to declare war againſt France, had kept their commerce intire, and therefore it was to be expected that the revenues were in good order. That the very reaſons they had urged of their danger from the French, ought to induce them to exert themſelves doubly the approaching campaign; but that they were not to depend upon his majeſty exerting himſelf in the ſame degree as he had done laſt year; but that he was reſolved, and ready, to co-operate with the Republic, as far as the preſent circumſtances of his dominions would admit of, in oppoſing the progreſs of the French. That his majeſty approved of prince Waldeck's plan, and in order to execute it, he propoſed 40,000 Dutch, 30,000 Auſtrians, excluſive of the garriſon of Luxemburg, 8000 Hanoverians, 10,000 Saxons, to be jointly taken into the pay of his majeſty and the States, agreeable to the treaty of Warſaw; and that theſe troops, with the 6000 Heſſians who were to return as ſoon as the rebellion was ſuppreſt, ſhould aſſemble in the Netherlands; and that the States General might, if they pleaſed, proceed

Lord Harrington's letter to them,

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immediately to the execution of an agreement to be entered upon for the above purpoſes between the empreſs queen, the States General, and himſelf. That his majeſty not being then in a condition to contribute to the defence of the empire, muſt leave the ſame to the court of Vienna and the princes of the circles of Germany; and that the treaty of Worms, he had reaſon to believe, would now be executed by the empreſs queen, by which the affairs of Italy were to be regulated. That his majeſty was diſpoſed to perſevere in fulfilling his engagements. That his majeſty did not doubt, as the object of the war in Flanders was no longer the aſſiſtance of the queen of Hungary only, but extended to the independence and to the very being of the Republic itſelf, which had been treated by France with the moſt inſolent and indecent menaces, that the States would be ready to exert their utmoſt power by augmentations in their land and ſea forces; and that, now the caſe is as become directly their own, and they had thought it neceſſary to have recourſe to the aſſiſtance of his majeſty, they would no longer heſitate to put themſelves upon the ſame footing with the Britiſh nation, by declaring war againſt France." Geo. II. 1746.

This letter was far from being the ſenſe of ſome who were in hopes of getting a compleat aſcendency in his maj-ſty's counſels, by entering, without reſerve, into the war. It was equally diſagreeable to many members of the States General, who had been flattered with the hopes of a very different anſwer. In their reply they made a few compliments to his majeſty; but in their turn, they complained, that their revenues were exhauſted, and that more was required of them than they were able to perform: they agreed, however, to furniſh the 40,000 men required; but they abſolutely refuſed to emit any declaration of war, and that for the reaſons formerly given, which ſubſiſted ſtronger now than ever. Their anſwer.

Though this anſwer of the Dutch was, like the whole of their conduct, deluſory and trifling, yet they made great intereſt to be eaſed by Britain of the burden of the war. But the temper of the Britiſh nation could not bear that; and rather than agree to it, and ſome other propoſals which they thought tended to diſunite the parliament, the miniſtry took an almoſt unanimous reſolution to reſign their places. The earl of Harrington was the firſt, who actually ſurrendered the ſeals, which was greatly taken notice of, becauſe he had been a perſonal favorite, and intirely raiſed by his majeſty. On the ſame day, the 10th of February, the duke Reſignations of the Engliſh miniſtry.

Geo. II. 1746. of Newcaſtle likewiſe reſigned the ſeals of his office, and the earl of Granville was appointed principal ſecretary of ſtate. Next day, Mr. Pelham, brother to the duke of Newcaſtle, reſigned his places as firſt lord of the treaſury, and chancellor of the exchequer. The earl of Pembroke ſurrendered the gold key as groom of the ſtole to his majeſty, and Mr. Greenville and Mr. Legg reſigned their places as lords of the admiralty. The lord chancellor, the earl of Cheſterfield, lord lieutenant of Ireland, and other great officers of ſtate, were preparing to proceed to their ſeveral reſignations, and it was with difficulty they were prevailed upon to wait a few hours, till the king's reſolutions ſhould be known.

In the mean while, there was, in a manner, a total ſtagnation of the public buſineſs, and the duke of Newcaſtle and his brother were more courted to and careſſed than ever by the principal perſons in the kingdom, of the landed as well as of the monied intereſt. The truth is, that many ſerious perſons now began to think, that Great Britain had gone rather too far in ſupporting the war upon the continent, and that it would be madneſs in her to proceed to the ſame expence, without being well aſſured that the empreſs queen, as well as the Dutch, would bear their reſpective proportions: neither did they think that the interruption of the ſupplies could be ſo great an evil, as the miſapplying them when granted. The new ſecretary of ſtate found the reſt of the miniſters almoſt unanimous in this opinion, and that he could not go on with the buſineſs of the nation. His majeſty plainly ſaw, by the increaſing popularity of the Pelham family, how agreeable their meaſures were to the ſenſe of the nation, which had been always the main rule of his conduct, and that determined him to replace them. The earl of Granville, on the other hand, had accepted of the ſeals, upon a preſumption that the ſupplies would be granted, and that too in time; and that the meaſures he intended would be approved of in parliament, as well as in the cabinet. But finding his majeſty's and the nation's ſervice was likely to ſuffer by the reſignations that had been made, and by thoſe that were upon the point of taking place, he therefore very wiſely, on the 14th of February, reſigned the ſeals into the hands of his majeſty, who re-delivered them to the duke of Newcaſtle and the earl of Harrington. Mr. Pelham, and the others who had reſigned, were likewiſe reinſtated in their ſeveral places. W. Pitt was firſt appointed joint vice-treaſurer of Ireland with the earl of Cholmondeley; and ſoon afterwards, upon the death of Mr.

The reſignations take up their places again.

Mr. Winington, he was made pay-maſter general of the forces, (an office into which, by his integrity, he introduced a great reformation) and ſworn a privy-counſellor. Sir William Yonge, who was then ſecretary at war, ſucceeded him as joint vice-treaſurer of Ireland, and Henry Fox, ſucceeded to the place of ſecretary at war. Lord Torrington was made captain of his majeſty's yeomen of the guards, in the room of lord Berkley of Stratton. The lord Archibald Hamilton was appointed maſter of Greenwich hoſpital, and lord Barrington was made a lord of the admiralty in his room. The honourable Richard Arundel, ſucceeded ſir John Hynde Cotton as treaſurer of the chambers. Welbore Ellis, eſq; was made a lord of the treaſury, as viſcount Duncannon was of the admiralty. The lord Gower, whoſe attachment to his majeſty was greatly taken notice of, was made an earl. The earl of Stair was made commander in chief of the marines, with a penſion of 4000l. a year during life. The earl of Albemarle was made commander in chief of the forces in Scotland, and ſir John Ligonier was appointed general and commander in chief of all his majeſty's Britiſh forces, and of thoſe in his majeſty's pay in the Auſtrian Netherlands; and Richard Leſtock, who was looked upon to be a favourite of the Pelham family, was, in purſuance of his majeſty's pleaſure, appointed by the lords of the admiralty admiral of the Blue. Other changes in the ſeveral departments of national buſineſs took place about the ſame time.

Geo. II. 1746.

The miniſtry ſettled.

The miniſtry being thus ſettled, the parliament granted the immenſe ſupplies that have been already mentioned, in conſequence of his majeſty's meſſage to the houſe concerning the invaſion. As to the proceedings in this ſeſſion of parliament, they were ſo unanimous, that they ſcarcely produced a debate, and therefore they are beſt known by the titles of the acts they paſſed *. Amongſt their firſt cares, one was, to ſhew their

Acts paſſed in the parliament.

* A bill to eſtabliſh an agreement between the governors and company of the bank of England to advance the ſum of 100,000l. at 4 per cent. to the government. A bill to impower his majeſty to make rules and directions to prevent the diſtemper ſpreading amongſt the horned cattle. A bill to indemnify the court of ſeſſions in Scotland for not meeting on the 1ſt of November laſt. An act for granting certain duties upon glaſs and ſpirituous liquors, and for raiſing 3,000,000l. by annuities and a lottery. An act for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion, and for the better payment of the army and their quarters. An act to con-

Geo. II. 1746. their regard for their royal deliverer the duke of Cumberland. Both houſes of parliament voted addreſſes of congratulation to his majeſty, and of thanks to his royal highneſs, upon the battle of Culloden. His majeſty likewiſe, in a letter all written with his own hand, charged his royal highneſs to acquaint the army under his command, how well ſatisfied he was with their courage and conduct; and a bill, which paſſed that ſeſſion, was ordered in by the commons, for an addition of 25,000l. a year to his revenue, ſettled upon himſelf and the heirs male of his body. An act likewiſe paſſed, which though it had an arbitrary aſpect, was at that juncture indiſpenſably neceſſary. It was for calling any ſuſpected perſons or perſons, whoſe eſtates or principal reſidence were in Scotland, to appear at Edinburgh, or where elſe it ſhould be judged expedient to anſwer for their good behaviour. By another act, the earl of Traquair, a poor, weak nobleman who had been involved in the rebellion, the viſcount of Strathallan, another nobleman who had been very active under Charles, the lord Pitſligo, and ſeveral other Scotch no-

continue the duties for encouragement of the coinage of money. An act to enlarge the time for the juſtices of the peace to qualify themſelves. An act for the more eaſy and ſpeedy trial of ſuch perſons who have levied, or ſhall levy, war againſt his majeſty; and for the better aſcertaining the qualifications of jurors in trials for high treaſon, or miſpriſion of treaſon, in that part of Great Britain called Scotland. An act to take off the negative voice of the court of aldermen of the city of London. Upon the 19th of April the Habeas Corpus act was further ſuſpended, and on the 4th of June his majeſty paſſed an act for more effectually ſecuring the duties now payable on foreign made ſail cloth imported into this kingdom, and for charging all foreign made ſail-cloth with a duty, and for explaining a doubt concerning ſhips being obliged, at their firſt ſetting out, to be furniſhed with one complete ſet of ſails made of Britiſh ſail-cloth. An act to continue two acts, one to encourage the growth of coffee in his majeſty's plantations in America, and the other, for the better ſecuring and encouraging the trade of his majeſty's ſugar colonies there. An act for the better regulation of elections of members to ſerve in parliament for ſuch cities and towns in that part of Great Britain called England, as are counties of themſelves. An act for the better preſervation of havens, roads, channels, and navigable rivers within that part of Great Britain called England. An act more effectually to prevent profane curſing and ſwearing. An act for the better encouragement of his majeſty's ſugar colonies in America.

blemen

blemen and gentlemen [b], were attainted, if they did not ſur- Geo. II.
render themſelves to one of his majeſty's juſtices of the peace 1746.
on or before the 12th of July 1746, and ſubmit to juſtice.
The neceſſity of the laſt-mentioned act ſpeaks for itſelf; but that with regard to ſuſpected perſons, was occaſioned by the great numbers of ſecret jacobites, who had abetted the rebellion, (as they were ready to do on any other new commotions) but had found means to keep themſelves without the reach of law. The moderation of the government in Scotland, at this juncture, was extreamly remarkable and laudable. The earl of Albemarle was then commander in chief of the forces in that country, and won the hearts of all ranks and parties by his humanity, juſtice, and equanimity. He diſcouraged all thoſe paſſionate applications which, upon the extinction of a civil war, are too apt to take place, thro' the exaſperated animoſity of parties; and none was reſtrained of their liberty, but they who were pointed out by act of parliament. The civil part of the government conducted themſelves with the ſame moderation. But as it was more than probable, that during the rage of the rebellion, the friends of the government might have done ſeveral things which, tho'

[b] David Wemyſs, eſq; called lord Elcho; James Drummond, eſq; eldeſt ſon of lord Strathallan; Simon Fraſer, eſq; eldeſt ſon of Lord Lovat; George Murray, eſq; brother to the duke of Athol; Lewis Gordon, eſq; brother to the duke of Gordon; James Drummond, called duke of Perth; James Graham, called viſcount of Dundee; John Nairn, called lord Nairn; David Ogilvie, called lord Ogilvie; John Drummond, called lord Drummond; Robert Mercer, eſq; ſir William Gordon, of Park; John Murray of Broughton, eſq; John Gordon the elder, of Glenbucket; Donald Cameron the younger, of Lochiel; Dr. Archibald Cameron, of Lochiel; Ludovick Cameron, of Tor Caſtle; Donald Mac Donald, of Clanronald, junior; Donald Mac Donald, of Lochgarie; Alexander Mac Donald, of Keppoch; Alexander Mac Donald, of Barriſdale; Alexander Mac Donald, of Glencoe; Evan Mac Pherſon, of Churrie; Lauchlan Mac Lauchlan, of Caſtle Lauchlan; John Mac Kinnon, of Mac Kinnon; Charles Stewart, of Ardſhil; George Lockhart, ſon of George Lockhart of Carnwath; Laurence Oliphant the elder, of Gaſk; Laurence Oliphant the younger, of Gaſk; James Graham of Aith; John Stewart, called John Roy Stewart; Francis Farquarſon, of Monaltege; Alexander Mac Gilivrie, of Drumaglaſh; Lauchlan Mac-Intoſh, merchant; Malcolm Roſs, of Pitcalny; Alexander Mac Leod; John Ray, of Reſtaling; Andrew Lundale, otherwiſe Lumſdain; William Fidler, clerk in the auditor's office.

neceſſary,

Geo. II. 1746. neceſſary, were not ſtrictly conformable to law, an act, therefore, paſſed to indemnify ſuch perſons as have acted in defence of his majeſty's perſon and government, and for the preſervation of the public peace of this kingdom during the time of the unnatural rebellion; and ſheriffs and others who have ſuffered eſcapes, occaſioned thereby, from vexatious ſuits and proſecutions.

See p. 174.

The numerous ſupport which the late rebellion had received from the clergy of the epiſcopal perſuaſion of Scotland and their followers, rendered it abſolutely neceſſary to check their dangerous zeal. They were in general nonjurors, for though [illegible] the full number of epiſcopiſts in Scotland, there were few more than congregations, and thoſe but thinly supplied with miniſters, who had taken the oaths to the government or who prayed for his majeſty by name. In other reſpects, this numerous ſet of clergy were, for the moſt part, as amply provided for as thoſe of the eſtabliſhed church, and in ſome places they were better reſpected. The order of their ſucceſſion of biſhops had been kept up amongſt them, and the old pretender nominated to the vacancies. As to their biſhops, they, as well as their clergy, were generally very illiterate and ignorant of every part that was due to their character, excepting that of keeping up in the minds of their followers a moſt ſtrict attachment to their perſons and function, which in ſome places, particularly in the north, thoſe biſhops exerciſed with grandeur. But an act now paſſed more effectually to prohibit and prevent paſtors or miniſters from officiating in epiſcopal meeting-houſes in Scotland, without duly qualifying themſelves according to law, and to puniſh perſons reſorting to any meeting-houſes where ſuch unqualified paſtors or miniſters ſhall officiate. Some parts of this act met with an oppoſition in the houſe of peers, on account of certain doubts which ſome of the lords entertained concerning the connection between the ſacerdotal and civil functions. But it was generally thought neceſſary to prohibit the public exerciſe of a worſhip, which was performed in direct violation of law, and in oppoſition to the eſtabliſhed government.

The ſtrong attachment which the Highlanders had to their own modes of life, dreſs, and language, was found to be a main ſpring of the rebellion. Till the battle of Culloden, their country was very little known; and in reality the public had very little information concerning them. The undertakings of ſome public companies in Scotland, had brought down to the Highlands a few Engliſhmen, who ſuper-

perintended their works; but theſe were very ill qualified to convey to the government any knowledge of the manners or genius of the inhabitants, their reſidence being chiefly in the well affected parts of the Highlands, where the characters of the people did not much differ from that of the Lowlanders. But the dreſs of the Highlanders continuing a viſible peculiarity to diſtinguiſh them from other ſubjects, and perpetually exciting their ideas of rebellion, it was thought expedient to aboliſh it. An act, therefore, paſſed for the more effectual diſarming the Highlands in Scotland, and for more effectually ſecuring the peace of the ſaid Highlands; and for reſtraining the uſe of the Highland dreſs; and for further indemnifying ſuch perſons as have acted in defence of his majeſty's perſon and government during the unnatural rebellion; and for indemnifying the judges and other officers in the court of juſticiary in Scotland, for not performing the northern circuit in May 1746; and for obliging the maſters and teachers of private ſchools in Scotland to take the oaths to his majeſty, his heirs and ſucceſſors, and to regiſter the ſame. Geo. II. 1746.

Such were the acts paſſed in this ſeſſion of parliament, which was remarkably unanimous. But the ſucceſſes of the allied army abroad, were far from anſwering thoſe noble diſpoſitions at home. The active marſhal Saxe, in the end of the year 1745, and the beginning of the year 1746, meditated a deſign upon Bruſſels, and made ſuch progreſs, that he opened the trenches before it the 3d of February. Count Kaunitz defended the place with a garriſon of 10,000 Auſtrians and Dutch troops, and made a ſhew of a vigorous reſiſtance. But in a few days they made themſelves maſters of Vilvorden, Niville, and all the out forts near the city. By the 8th of February the breach was made practicable, and the governor, with all his numerous garriſon, which were made priſoners of war, ſurrendered the next day, after loſing 600 men, and the French having 2000 killed; but about the ſame time they took poſſeſſion of Louvain. By the conqueſt of Bruſſels, the confederates loſt their communication with the garriſons of Mons, St. Guilain, Charleroy, Namur, and Luxemburg. Bruſſels taken by the French.

Thoſe conqueſts had a great effect upon affairs in England; and the French court, which had excellent intelligence from thence, formed one of the boldeſt, but moſt abſurd, ſchemes, that well can be conceived. This was no other than prevailing with Van Hoey, who continued ſtill to be the

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the Dutch miniſter at Paris, to be the vehicle of a letter deſigned to deter the Engliſh government from bringing the rebels to puniſhment. But in order to give the reader a clear idea of this extraordinary interpoſition, it is neceſſary to recount the ſteps taken by the government of England to make ſome examples of juſtice.

Trials of the earls of Kilmarnock, and Cromartie, and lord Balmerino.

The earls of Kilmarnock and Cromartie, with lord Balmerino, had been ſent priſoners to London, and lodged in the Tower. Bills of indictment of high treaſon being found againſt them by the grand jury of the county of Surrey, a writ of certiorari was allowed for removing the indictments into the houſe of peers, June 20, and their trial was appointed to be the 28th of July following. The lord chancellor being appointed lord high ſteward on that occaſion, the trial was very ſolemn and regular. The two earls pleaded guilty; but the lord Balmerino made an objection upon his being ſtiled in the indictment, Arthur lord Balmerino, late of the city of Carliſle, and to his being charged with his being preſent at the taking of Carliſle, whereas, at that time, he was not within twelve miles of it. Upon this the proſecutors for the crown went into their evidence, and proved, that he commanded a troop of horſe under Charles, and that he was ſeen entering Carliſle ſeveral times at their head. It likewiſe appeared, that he attended the rebels, as captain of the ſame troop, in all their marches through England, and that he was at the battle of Falkirk, and marched northward with them. Upon this evidence the opinion of the judges was taken, which was, "We are of opinion, that it is not neceſſary to prove the overt-act to be committed on the particular day laid in the indictment: but as evidence may be given of an overt-act before the day, ſo it may be after the day ſpecified in the indictment: for the day laid is circumſtance and form only, and not material in point of proof; and this is the known conſtant courſe of proceedings in trials." Upon this opinion being delivered, his lordſhip, in a very handſome manner, acquieſced, and the peers who were preſent, to the number of 135, found him unanimouſly guilty of the indictment. At paſſing ſentence, the two earls, who had pleaded guilty, made moſt affecting ſpeeches, that of Cromartie being looked upon as a finiſhed piece of eloquence; acknowledging their guilt, and imploring the interceſſion of their peers with his majeſty for mercy. Lord Balmerino offered a faint plea in arreſt of judgment, upon which he was aſſigned council: but being informed it was frivolous, he withdrew the ſame, and begged their lordſhips interceſſion with his

his majeſty for mercy; and ſentence of death was pronounced upon all three by the lord high ſteward. Geo. II. 1746.

Great intereſt was made to ſave the two earls, and that for lord Cromartie prevailed; his ſentence of death being changed into a mild impriſonment within certain miles of his reſidence, in thoſe parts of England aſſigned him by the government, and a moderate penſion was aſſigned him to ſubſiſt on. Some ſtrong and deep prepoſſeſſions lay againſt Kilmarnock. In his ſpeech he ſeemed to be vaſtly penetrated with repentance, but he endeavoured to mitigate his guilt by a falſhood; for he pretended, that, at the battle of Culloden, he ſurrendered himſelf, when it was very eaſy for him to have eſcaped. But this was well known to be an untruth. For though he did come up with the dragoons of the royal party, yet he miſtook them for ſome of the French dragoons, by whoſe aſſiſtance he intended to make his eſcape. This inſincerity, with ſome other particulars of his conduct, particularly his ingratitude to a government from whom he had received great obligations, operated againſt him; and a warrant was ſent for his and Balmerino's execution on the 18th of Auguſt.

It is certain that Kilmarnock thought his intereſt ſo good, that it would procure him a pardon; and he ſent for Foſter, a diſſenting preacher, who at that time was highly popular in London for his virtue and moderation, to attend him in the Tower. Foſter publiſhed an account of his lordſhip's behaviour and ſentiments there; and if we are to believe him, they were ſuch as became a dutiful ſubject, and a good chriſtian. When the day of execution came, he and Balmerino being carried by the ſheriffs to a houſe adjacent to the ſcaffold on which they ſuffered, Balmerino, whoſe behaviour on this occaſion was intrepid, employed the few minutes they were together in preſſing Kilmarnock to declare, whether he knew of any order, ſigned by the pretender's ſon, to give no quarter at the battle of Culloden. Kilmarnock anſwered, he did not; but ſaid, that when he was a priſoner at Inverneſs, he was informed by ſeveral officers, that ſuch an order, ſigned by lord George Murray, was in the duke of Cumberland's poſſeſſion. Balmerino taking this to be a full acquittal of his prince, as he called him, embraced Kilmarnock with great affection, and told him, he was ſorry that he was diſappointed of diſcharging the reckoning alone; then retired to the room prepared for him. Kilmarnock and Balmerino executed.

When

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When Kilmarnock was led to the ſcaffold, attended by Foſter and a clergyman of the church of England, to whom he was related, he ſhewed great ſenſibility of what he was to undergo. But Foſter's enemies gave out, that he had flattered his lordſhip all along with the hopes of a pardon, provided he kept up the ſhew of his penitence to the laſt. This calumny, for it probably was no other, received ſome countenance by Kilmarnock's raiſing his head after it was upon the block, and looking round. He died, however, with decency and compoſure.

Balmerino was ſaved from dying in the brutal, inſenſible manner expected by his enemies. He would, as has been already obſerved, have gladly accepted of mercy; but finding all his hopes in vain, he prepared himſelf for death with great firmneſs, but without affectation, being attended by a nonjuring clergyman of the church of England, of which religion he profeſſed himſelf. The moſt accurate obſervers could not find in his eyes or complexion the ſmalleſt ſymptom of concern, much leſs of fear. But he was ſo far from being inſenſible, that he was obſerved to check his natural boldneſs, for fear the ſpectators ſhould think it indecent. He died with as zealous expreſſions for the cauſe he had embraced, as Kilmarnock had done for the royal family.

The rebels apply to France.

Thoſe, and a great many other, proceedings, at this juncture, againſt the friends and adherents of France, while her arms were victorious upon the continent, equally ſurprized and intimidated the adherents of the pretender. They had inſolently, but vainly, flattered themſelves, that the government would have conſidered their pretended prince as an ally of France, and therefore, that for fear of repriſals made upon the Engliſh ſubjects on the continent, they would have been tender of ſanguinary puniſhments againſt his followers. They had even applied to the French miniſtry for commiſſions from that court to ſome of the chief rebels, in hopes to have the benefit of the cartel by virtue of ſuch commiſſions. They received, however, from the court of France very cold encouragement with regard to ſuch applications. But the French king ſtimulated and even reproached, by Tencin and his clergy, thought ſomething was due to the engagement he had entered into with the young pretender. He therefore, ordered his miniſter, D'Argençon, to write a letter to Van Hoey, the Dutch miniſter at Paris, in favour of the rebel priſoners in England. In this letter, the tyes of parentage ſubſiſting between the French king and the young

D'Argençon's letter to Van Hoey.

pretender

pretender, are mentioned and acknowledged. Great encomiums are made upon prince Edward, as he is there called; and an inſolent caution is given, that his Britannic majeſty ſhould not ſeverely proſecute his adherents, leaſt dangerous effects ſhould follow. "It is, continued D'Argenſon, with this view, ſir, that the king ordered me to deſire your excellency to write to the Engliſh miniſtry, and to repreſent to it in the ſtrongeſt manner the inconveniencies that muſt infallibly reſult from any violent proceedings againſt prince Edward. The right of nations, and the particular intereſt which his majeſty makes in reſpect to that prince, are motives that will probably make ſome impreſſion upon the court of London; and his majeſty hopes to find none but noble and generous proceedings from the king of England and the Engliſh nation, and that all thoſe who were lately concerned in the intereſt of the houſe of Stuart, will likewiſe have reaſon to extol the generoſity and clemency of his Britannic majeſty. But if, contrary to all expectations, any attempts ſhould be made either with reſpect to the liberty of prince Edward, or the life of his friends and partiſans, it is eaſy to be foreſeen that a ſpirit of animoſity and fury might prove one dreadful conſequence of ſuch rigour; and how many innocent people, before the end of the war, might fall victims to a violence which could only aggravate the evil, and certainly would ſet no good example to Europe." Geo. II. 1746.

Van Hoey's weakneſs and vanity, and above all, his declared attachment to the French court would not ſuffer him to ſtifle, as in prudence he ought to have done, this letter. He immediately incloſed it to the duke of Newcaſtle, ſecretary of ſtate to his Britannic majeſty, in a letter of his own, which was filled with frothy expreſſions and common-place ſentences, but all highly in favour of the rebel priſoners. The duke immediately laid it before the king, who conceiving it to be contrary to the honour and dignity of his crown, ordered that no anſwer ſhould be returned to D'Argenſon. But the duke wrote to Van Hoey in the following ſpirited ſtrain: "You know, ſir, (and ſo do the French miniſters) with what a ſcrupulous exactneſs his majeſty has, on his part, executed the cartel agreed on between him and the moſt Chriſtian king in its utmoſt extent, even to the releaſing, on their parol, all the officers in the French ſervice who were made priſoners within the limits of theſe kingdoms, and who were not his majeſty's natural born ſubjects; although the ſervice on which they were then employed might very juſtly have excuſed his majeſty from it. It is impoſſible, after this, Van Hoey's letter to the duke of Newcaſtle.

Geo. II. 1746. to doubt of his majesty's sincere desire to do every thing which the law of nations can require between powers engaged in war with each other, even beyond what is usually practised. But as to what relates to his majesty's own subjects, neither the law of nations, the cartels, nor the practice or example of any country, authorize any foreign power at war with his majesty to intrude themselves, or to make any demand from his majesty relating thereto. The most Christian king knows too well himself the right inherent in every sovereign [illegible] that his majesty can think otherwise. [illegible] from your excellency his majesty's surprize [illegible] the ambassador of a power, so strictly united [illegible] to engage, interested in every thing that concerns the honour and security of his majesty's person and government, would concern himself with transmitting to his majesty [illegible] demand. And I am very sorry, sir, to be obliged to acquaint you, that his majesty could not avoid complaining [illegible] their High Mightinesses the States General your masters."

Van Hoey reprimanded.

Mr. Trevor, the British minister at the Hague, accordingly presented a very sharp memorial against Van Hoey's conduct, which, he said, was as unjustifiable as it was unheard of. He likewise acquainted their High Mightinesses, that his majesty had commanded him to demand of them such a distinguished satisfaction, as may be some way proportionable to the scandal which this proceeding has given to every true friend to the honour, liberty, and religion of the two powers." In consequence of this representation, Van Hoey received a very severe reprimand from his masters, and was ordered to write a submissive letter to the duke of Newcastle, asking pardon for his behaviour, which he at last did.

Trials and executions of the rebel prisoners at London.

The British ministry was too magnanimous to make the rebel prisoners suffer on account of Van Hoey's imprudence; but there was a necessity of making some examples. Those in the north of Scotland, still relying on the friendship of France, had been guilty of some insolencies, which had obliged the military power to proceed against them with severity, and to drive their black cattle, which was their chief means of subsistance in summer time, from off their estates. In the south country, the rebels that had been taken at Carlisle, and many who had been made prisoners at the battle of Culloden, were sent to London, where at first they were confined in Newgate. Here, through the contributions of their party, which were not only liberal but profuse, they were enabled to live even in a riotous manner; and relying, as their friends

friends in the north had done, on the interceſſion and power of the French court, they ſeemed to ſet the government at defiance. But the act of parliament having impowered the miniſtry to try them in Southwark, they were carried over thither under ſtrong guards, and lodged in the New Jail. Bills of indictment being found againſt them all, it was the 3d of July before the court could meet for their trial; and upon their repreſentation, they were indulged a further time to the 15th, when Townley, the colonel of the Mancheſter regiment, was found guilty of high treaſon. He had, like many others of his deluded party, truſted to a commiſſion which he had formerly borne in the French army. But it appearing, that he was then no actual officer in their ſervice, he was brought in guilty. The following ſucceſſive days, the reſt of the officers of the Mancheſter regiment, and of the garriſon left at Carliſle, were tried; and to the number of ſixteen received ſentence of death, ſome of them pleading guilty. Amongſt theſe was one Morgan, who had acted in ſome capacity of a lawyer, and had been very buſy in the ſervice of the young pretender. He was a man of a very indifferent character. The others were remarkable for little or nothing but their blind attachment to their unhappy principles; in which ſuch of them as were executed, died with a decency and intrepidity that ought to have been employed in a better cauſe. The judges preſent on that occaſion were, the lord chief juſtice Lee, ſir Martin Wright, ſir Michael Foſter, ſir Thomas Reynolds, ſir Thomas Abney, and Mr. Baron Clive. Out of the ſeventeen condemned at that time, only nine were executed. On the 31ſt of July, and the 2d of Auguſt, the court ſate again, and four were found guilty, of whom three were executed. The next ſet of rebels who were tried, were thoſe who had been taken at the battle of Culloden, or in the north of Scotland. Amongſt theſe were ſir John Wedderburn and ſir James Kinloch, who had been a lieutenant colonel in Ogilvie's regiment. The guilt of the former was aggravated by his having a place in the revenue under the government. The lord Mac Leod, a youth of about 17 years of age, was likewiſe ſet to the bar, as was Mr. Murray, brother to the earl of Dunmore; and all of them pleaded guilty. Upon the trial of Alexander Kinloch and Charles Kinloch, (both of them brothers to the baronet of that name) a point of law was ſtarted, whether thoſe who are natives of Scotland, reſidents of Scotland, and had committed acts of treaſon in Scotland, could, without a breach of the union, be tried in England,

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Geo. II. land. Another point of law was ſtarted by the council for
1746. the ſame gentlemen: but both points were over-ruled by the court, and they received ſentence of death, but were not executed. Hamilton, the rebel governor of Carliſle, put it in a manner out of the power of the government to ſhew him mercy. He pretended, that his ſurrender at Carliſle was upon a promiſe of pardon; and he had even the preſumption to ſend [illegible] to ſeveral great perſonages, in which the ſame [illegible] repeated. He retracted his plea, however, [illegible] contrary to his expectation, he was [illegible] Common. The whole number of the rebels [illegible], was no more than 17 out of [illegible] of death. In the north of England, where the [illegible] were tried, the like lenity was ſhewn, and none were executed but thoſe whoſe rebellion had been attended with ſome very aggravating circumſtances.

In the mean while lord Lovat had, by the indefatigable endeavours of his purſuers, been taken priſoner, as had Murray of Broughton, and both of them being brought up to London, were ſent to the Tower. There was priſoner in the Tower at the ſame time the earl of Traquair, upon a violent ſuſpicion of having correſponded with the pretender and his family, and of his having been one of the chief agents that had fomented the rebellion. He was one of the ſeven aſſociators who ſigned a writing, engaging themſelves to venture their lives and fortunes to reſtore the pretender and his family to the throne of Great Britain. The other ſix were the lord Lovat, ſir James Campbell of Auchinbreck, Cameron of Lochiel the younger, John Steuart, brother to lord Traquair, lord Perth, and lord John Drummond, Perth's brother. It appeared, that Traquair was in a manner ſtationed at London, as an agent from the party, to give them intelligence from time to time, and to try what dependance they could have upon their friends in England, cardinal Fleury having made that an indiſpenſible preliminary before he could be brought into any engagement to ſupport them. But it ſeems Traquair's reſidence in England, was very little to the ſatisfaction of the conſpirators. They accuſed him of trifling with the party, of indolence in ſending intelligence; and ſome had even ſuſpicions of his attachment to their cauſe. But whatever might be in that, it is certain, that upon the firſt ſymptoms of the rebellion breaking out, his lordſhip was ſent priſoner to the Tower of London; and the jacobites, Murray in particular, pretended that his heart had

failed him, and that he had made diſcoveries which had affected and diſconcerted the whole party. Lovat being now in cuſtody, it was reſolved to proſecute him to the utmoſt extent of law. But even that was not thought ſufficient; and it was judged proper, that the whole train of the rebellion, with its connections and dependencies, ſhould be laid open in the courſe of the trial; and this could be done no way ſo effectually, as by making ſecretary Murray (who was now likewiſe a priſoner) an evidence for the crown. Geo. II. 1746.

Murray, who had ſentiments of private honour, and who was born a gentleman, would gladly have excuſed himſelf from appearing in the diſagreeable light of an evidence and an informer. But having been examined by ſome of the council, he had ſcarce any thing to diſcover but what had already been diſcovered by Traquair. As to Lovat himſelf, Murray had very little regard for him; for he looked upon his dilatory and wavering conduct, as having ruined their cauſe. He therefore agreed to appear as evidence for the crown upon Lovat's trial; which though it did not come preciſely within the compaſs of the year 1746, ſhall, for the ſake of uniformity, be here related.

Lovat's cunning had been ſuch, that it might have put the government to ſome trouble to have proceeded againſt him by the way of indictment, as they did againſt the other lords; ſo that the houſe of commons, on the 11th of December, ſent ſir William Yonge to impeach him in the houſe of peers. Lovat, in conſequence of this impeachment, being ordered to be brought up to the bar of that houſe, appeared to be full of age and infirmities. He had all the indulgence his caſe could admit of, and upon his petition, he had council and ſollicitors aſſigned him; and it was directed that he ſhould receive the rents of his eſtate in like manner as if he was not under an accuſation of high treaſon. But ſome difficulties afterwards occurred on that head. Upon the trial, which was very ſolemn, the evidence againſt Lovat was very ſtrong, and all the facts laid down concerning him in the courſe of this hiſtory, were fully proved. Some difficulties were made as to the competency of ſecretary Murray's evidence, he ſtanding in the light of an attainted perſon, and one who was ſwearing that he might ſave his own life. But though Murray, in fact, had not ſurrendered himſelf before the 12th of July 1746, in terms of the act of parliament, yet he had been brought by Habeas Corpus before the bar of the court of King's Bench, and being there aſked, what he Lord Lovat tried.

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had to ſay why he ſhould not ſuffer death according to law, upon a ſuppoſition that he was attainted upon that act of parliament, he pleaded in general, that he was one of the perſons named in the act; and that long before the 12th of July 1746, to wit, on the 28th day of June then laſt, he did, at Edinburgh, in due manner, according to the meaning of the act, ſurrender himſelf to Andrew Fletcher, lord juſtice clerk, and one of his majeſty's juſtices of the peace; and he ſaid, that Andrew Fletcher had then an authority to admit him to make ſuch ſurrender. He added, that on the 28th of June he was committed to priſon by the lord juſtice clerk, and that he continued ever ſince in cuſtody, and was ready to take his trial. The attorney-general, by a warrant from his majeſty, confeſſed this plea to be true, and it was recorded in the court of King's Bench, by which the incapacity of an attainder was removed from Murray; and after a good deal of debate and difficulty, he was admitted to be a competent evidence. In the courſe of what he ſaid, he very ingenuouſly laid open the ſprings and progreſs of the rebellion; and other witneſſes, together with many written evidences, ſome of them letters under the priſoner's own hand, fully manifeſted Lovat's guilt. It appeared, however, from the teſtimony of ſir Everard Fawkener, ſecretary to his royal highneſs, and of others, that Lovat, after he was taken, could have ſaved his eſtate and life, offered to employ all his intereſt for the government, and for that purpoſe made uſe of an expreſſion of Virgil's, extremely characteriſtical of himſelf *. Upon the whole, he was convicted of high treaſon, by the unanimous ſentence of all his peers, who were

Lord Lovat's trial, p. 50.

* He ſaid further, that he had been in a condition to render ſervice to the government, and that he might be of future ſervice to the goverment, and that mercy as well as juſtice belonged to ſovereigns; and that if his majeſty would extend mercy towards him, he would ſhew his loyalty, and deſerve more than twenty ſuch heads as his were worth. I would more particularly have entered into the ſervices that he would render the government, but that I found by his own diſcourſe that the ſervice he meant was no more than to bring his clan, for the future, into the ſervice of the government, inſtead of employing them againſt it. He ſaid, the world allowed him ſome abilities, and he would apply them to that ſervice; and concluded with this ſaying, he was

——————in utramque paratus
Seu verſare Dolos, ſeu certæ occumbere morti.

Lovat's Trial.

117.

1117. He made a long ſpeech, tending to prove the great ſervices he had done to the government in the year 1715, and of the great favour he was in with the late king; but theſe were conſiderations, as the lord ſteward took notice, that operated againſt him, and he received ſentence of death. Geo. II. 1746.

He is executed.

When he was remanded to the Tower, finding that all application for mercy would be in vain, he gave a looſe to his natural diſpoſition, and avowed himſelf a jacobite and a papiſt. His behaviour was remarkably facetious, yet compoſed. When he was brought upon the ſcaffold, on the 9th of April 1747, he was attended by a popiſh prieſt, chaplain to the Sardinian ambaſſador; and after repeating ſome paſſages from the Claſſicks, intimating that he died a martyr for the liberty of his country, he ſubmitted to his fate.

Campaign in the Netherlands.

The moderation of the government in thus extinguiſhing the very remains of the rebellion, was highly agreeable to the whole nation, but its conſequences were fatal to the common cauſe, by the great draught of Britiſh troops that it had occaſioned from the Netherlands. The reduction of Bruſſels and Louvain, and other open places, ſtruck all Europe with high ideas of the activity of marſhal Saxe, who had, in a manner, changed the character of the French, by bringing them to bear with the fatigues of a winter campaign. Marſhal Bathiani, at this time, commanded the confederate army, which conſiſted of no more than 44,000 troops, of whom only four battalions and nine ſquadrons were Britiſh; and he was obliged to intrench them behind the Demer, ten miles ſouth-weſt of Antwerp, and fourteen north eaſt of Bruſſels. This happened towards the end of March; while marſhal Saxe aſſembled his army, conſiſting of upwards of 100,000 men, who in April were headed by their king, and advancing againſt the allies, obliged them to retreat to Antwerp, where they left a garriſon of 2000 men, and from Antwerp to Breda, the capital of Dutch Brabant. Thoſe diſagreeable retreats, were generally attributed to the lateneſs of the ſeaſon in which the Engliſh money-bills had paſſed the parliament, and which had diſabled the empreſs queen from getting her troops ſo early together as ſhe ought to have done. The confederates finding themſelves no match for the French, begun to fortify themſelves at Terhyde near Breda, till they could receive reinforcements from England and Germany. In the mean while, Saxe inveſted Antwerp, which ſurrendered on the 9th of May, and the citadel held out only ſeven days longer. At laſt they were joined by 10,000 Hanoverians, and by prince William of Heſſe with the

Antwerp taken by the French.

Geo. II. 1746. Heſſian troops, and three Engliſh regiments from Scotland, and 25,000 men from Germany, under count Palfi, the whole to be commanded by prince Charles of Lorrain.

It was expected, before thoſe reinforcements had reached the confederates, the French would have attacked them. But the latter being now in the Dutch territories, and the camp of the allies being very ſtrong, the French opened their trenches before Mons, the capital of Hainault, and St. Ghuilain. On the 29th of May, the French brought before Mons 60,000 men, 140 pieces of heavy cannon, and 80 mortars, the whole commanded by the prince of Conti, while marſhal Saxe lay with another army between Lier and Antwerp, to cover the ſiege. The garriſon of Mons did not exceed 4000 men, but they made, for ſome time, a reſolute defence; at laſt, on the 27th of June, they were obliged to ſurrender priſoners of war. The reduction of Mons, which was reckoned one of the ſtrongeſt towns in the world, was followed by that of St. Ghuilain, and on the 8th of July Charleroy, which was garriſoned by 1500 men, was likewiſe beſieged and taken. In the mean while, the French king had left his army, that he might be preſent at the delivery of the Dauphineſs. But being now abſolutely maſter of Flanders, Brabant and Hainault, he united by an edict all thoſe places to his crown for ever, that had belonged to the ſame at the treaty of Riſwick, and had been given up by the treaty of Utrecht.

as is Mons and St. Ghillain,

and Charleroy.

Namur was the next object of the French. It ſtands on the weſt ſide of the Maeſe, at its junction with the Sambre, which runs between the town and the citadel, and is a place of ſo great ſtrength, that the ſiege of it had never been attempted, even by the duke of Marlborough. The allied army, which was now commanded by prince Charles of Lorrain, marched to the neighbourhood of Namur, for the protection of that city, while the French were encamped at Gemblours. The camp pitched upon by prince Charles was ſo advantageous, that marſhal Saxe could not attack the confederates; but having greatly the advantage of them in generalſhip, he ſeized Dinant, in the biſhopric of Leige, and thereby rendered himſelf maſter of the navigation of the river Maeſe above Namur, while count Lowendahl took Huy, a town and caſtle of great importance on the ſame river, 17 miles north-eaſt of Namur, and ſeized a large magazine of the confederates there. By the taking of thoſe two places, the French being intirely maſters of the navigation of the Maeſe, and having cut off the communication of the confederates with Maeſtrecht, prince Charles found himſelf ſo

Motions of both armies.

ſtreighten ed

ſtreightened in his proviſions, that he was obliged to retire to the north of the Maeſe, for the conveniency of drawing his ſupplies from the dutchies of Limberg and Luxemberg. Geo. II. 1746.

The truth is, the great abilities of prince Charles as a general, had not been conſpicuous ever ſince the death of his princeſs, which affected him ſo greatly, that he did not give the ſame attention as formerly to the affairs of the field. A ſhameful neglect, during all this campaign, appeared amongſt the confederates. They were unprovided with cannon to fight either Saxe or Lowendahl, though greatly ſuperior to each, and no care had been taken for ſecuring the countries from whence they could draw their proviſions. No ſooner had the confederates withdrawn to the north of the Maeſe, than Namur was inveſted by 27,000 men, under the command of count Clermont, who was ſupported by the other two French generals. The place was garriſoned by 9000 Auſtrians; but the defence it made was far from being anſwerable to its ſtrength and garriſon. The dreadful fire of the French, reduced the city to capitulate on the 19th of September, being the ſixth day of the ſiege, and, ten days after, the citadel ſurrendered likewiſe, the garriſon being made priſoners of war. The amazing rapidity of this conqueſt, created an univerſal conſternation amongſt the confederates, whoſe only apology for themſelves was, that the French artillery was irreſiſtable. Namur beſieged and taken.

Prince Charles, during the ſiege of Namur, was poſted at Maeſtricht, 43 miles diſtant from thence, and 13 north of Leige. He had now been joined by three Britiſh battallions under ſir John Ligonier, and by two Bavarian battallions, part of 5000 men belonging to that elector, lately taken into the pay of the confederates, who were now but little inferior in number to the French. It was therefore neceſſary, for their own credit, to endeavour to bring on a deciſive action, and therefore they paſſed the Maeſe to attack Saxe, who very prudently took poſſeſſion of Tongres, and made ſuch a diſpoſition, as obliged the confederates to return under vaſt diſadvantages to Maeſtrecht. On the 7th of October they paſſed the Jaar, in eight columns, the artillery making the ninth. Sir John Ligonier led the left wing of the horſe; and the whole army being paſſed, the French, in detached parties, appeared on all the eminences, and advantageous poſts, and a moſt dreadful cannonading on both ſides begun. The regulars of the confederates at firſt were driven back by the French, who had paſſed the river; but theſe in return were attacked by Johnſon's The battle of Lierre.

Geo. II. 1746. son's regiment, who petitioned for the honour of the first attack, by two Hanoverian and two Hessian regiments, and some other troops under prince Charles and Bathiani, and repulsed with the loss of 700 men. But count Clermont, from Namur, having joined the grand army under Saxe on the 9th of October, the French made a motion on the 10th, and passed the Jaar with their whole army. The confederates, being then sensible that the French intended to attack them, they took possession of the villages of Liers, Warem, and Roucoux, which were defended by major general Zastrow, with two British, four Hanoverian, and two Hessian battalions, supported by the prince of Hesse and general Howard. In the mean while, the enemy advanced in three columns, each column having at the head of it 30 pieces of cannon; and three batteries, erected by the confederates, began to play upon them. Prince Waldeck having had intelligence that the French intended to possess themselves of Leige, had been obliged to change his situation to preserve that city, and the French bent their chief force upon his left; but were repulsed several times, with extraordinary bravery, by that prince and the troops under him. The Scotch brigade behaved particularly well. They were, however, overpowered by numbers, and forced to give way, after a very gallant defence. The three villages were at the same time attacked by 55 battalions in columns by brigades; and as soon as one brigade was repulsed, another came on: and the battalions under major general Zastrow, after having done wonderfully well, were at last obliged to abandon the the villages of Warem and Roucoux, the major general supporting himself still at Liers, with the battalions under prince Frederick and general Howard. Sir John Ligonier rallied the battalions which had suffered so much; the Hanoverian regiment of Maidell, and the Hessian regiment of Manspach, having stood their ground to the last, and refused quarter, so that few of them escaped. The battallions of Boetselaer and Donop suffered likewise extreamly; notwithstanding which they rallied, and drove the enemy, who were advancing into the plain, back again into the village. The battalions of Graham and Howard, which were in Roucoux, lost also a great many men, but to the last maintained a hollow way, where they were posted by sir John Ligonier, and were of great use; brigadier Douglas, who commanded them, having done every thing a good and gallant officer could do. As soon as prince Waldeck, whose troops had begun to give way, was informed that the villages were lost, he retreated

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in good order, and taking behind the left of the Engliſh, marched towards the Maeſe by St. Peterſberg. Geo. II. 1746.

Under thoſe circumſtances, the confederates made a maſterly retreat towards the Maeſe, without being purſued by the French, who, on this occaſion, are ſaid to have loſt 10,000 men, and the confederates about half that number. The conduct of Saxe in the deſperate attack he made, was generally blamed, as all the advantage he had gained was far from countervailing the troops he loſt. Sir John Ligonier, and the earls of Rothes and Crauford, diſtinguiſhed themſelves greatly at the head of the Britiſh forces; but the overſights committed by prince Charles and the other foreign generals of the confederates, were unpardonable. They were almoſt deſtitute of artillery, though they were played upon by upwards of 100 pieces of French cannon; and the attack was actually begun before it was known that the French were in poſſeſſion of Leige, which had been betrayed to them the night before, and which contributed greatly to the advantage the French gained. The Engliſh horſe, during all the action, had always the advantage of the French. But the Auſtrians had very little ſhare in the engagement, being kept in awe by 10,000 of the French cavalry, who, had the Auſtrians weakened their lines to ſupport the Britiſh and Dutch, might have cut off their retreat to Maeſtricht. The Engliſh of note killed upon this occaſion, were ſir Henry Neſbit, and five other captains, and 3,500 men upon the whole, including the miſſing and priſoners. After this battle, nothing material paſſed in the Netherlands. The confederates paſſed the Maeſe, and took up their winter quarters in the dutchies of Limberg and Luxemberg, as the French did theirs in their new conqueſts.

Project to reduce Canada.

While the Engliſh army had ſo great a ſhare in this unſucceſsful campaign, their miniſtry were forming a plan of the utmoſt conſequence to the glory and intereſt of the nation. This was no leſs than the reduction of all the French empire on the continent of America, by marching a powerful army into Canada, and making themſelves maſters of Quebec. The reduction of Louiſburg, rendered this ſcheme extreamly plauſible. Commiſſions were ſent for the ſeveral governors of the Engliſh plantations in America, impowering them to raiſe and regiment men, who were to be ſent upon that expedition, and who were to be commanded by Gooch, the lieutenant governor of Virginia, as major general, the dignity of a baronet being conferred upon him at the ſame time. The Americans entered into the project with infinite

Geo. II. 1746. infinite alacrity. The province of Maſſachuſetts bay, which had diſtinguiſhed itſelf ſo greatly in the expedition againſt Louiſburgh, came to an immediate reſolution of raiſing 3000 volunteers; and the other governors of New England, Virginia, Maryland, and Penſilvania, exerted themſelves ſo effectually, that they were in a condition to have raiſed 10,000 men, had the expedition taken place. Lieutenant general St. Clair was appointed to command the land forces, and a ſtrong ſquadron, with a large body of tranſports, were aſſembled at Portſmouth by the beginning of May, and the embarkation of the land forces was even begun. But the government of England had been long ſtrangers to expeditions of ſo much importance and difficulty; and ſome thought, that the project of a peace, being at that time upon the carpet, the deſtination of this fleet, ſhould it take place, muſt render all projects of that kind more difficult, and, perhaps, laid aſide. abortive. However this may be, it was certain the ſecret was very ill kept, and the preparations were worſe conducted; for the ſhips lay at Portſmouth, till the ſeaſon for action in North America was over.

D'Anville's unſucceſsful expedition to North America. In the mean while, the intention of the Britiſh miniſtry being known to the French, they fitted out at Breſt a ſquadron of eleven ſhips of the line, three frigates, three fire-ſhips, and two bombs, beſides twenty ſmaller ſhips from 10 to 24 guns, and 56 ſail of tranſports laden with ſtores and proviſions, and a body of 3500 land-forces on board, beſides two tenders with artillery. The whole of this armament was to be commanded by the duke D'Anville, and the deſtination of it was to retake Louiſburgh, ſubdue Annapolis Royal, and recover Cape Breton. The land forces were to be commanded by De la Jonquier, who carried out with him 40,000 ſtands of ſmall arms, for the uſe of the Canadians and the French Indians, who were expected to join him upon his landing. The French accordingly ſailed in June, but it was September before they came upon the coaſt of Acadia; after this, the whole of their expedition was one continued ſeries of misfortunes. A dreadful mortality prevailed on board their ſhips: they were overtaken with terrible ſtorms and tempeſts, by which they were wrecked or diſperſed. The next in command to D'Anville, run himſelf through the body; and De la Jonquier, finding his men reduced to a handful, ſent part of the ſhips with him to Quebec, and underſtanding that the Engliſh were ready to receive him, he returned, without making any attempt, with the remaining few to France, after giving out that he would

would ſubdue all the Engliſh empire upon the continent of America. Geo. II. 1746.

At this time an Auſtrian army, under general Brown, as ſhall be ſhewn in the courſe of this hiſtory, having paſſed the Var, and made an irruption into France itſelf, the Britiſh miniſtry came to a reſolution of employing the ſhips and troops that were intended againſt Quebec, in an expedition againſt Britanny, which, beſides other advantages, might be attended with that of facilitating the operations of the Auſtrians upon the Var. The ſquadron deſtined for this expedition, conſiſted of 16 ſhips of the line, 8 frigates, 2 bomb-veſſels, with 30 tranſports, and 5800 land-forces, conſiſting of two battalions of the foot guards, a battalion of the royal Scots, with Harriſon's, Bragg's, Frampton's, and Richbell's regiments, beſides the Highland regiment under lord John Murray, and 200 matroſſes and bombardiers. The fleet on this expedition was commanded by Leſtock, admiral of the Blue; and on the 17th of September they anchored in the bay of Polduc, at the north entry of the bay of Biſcay, inſtead of Quimperley bay, where they landed on the 20th, at about the diſtance of ten miles from Port l'Orient. Deſcent of the Engliſh upon Britanny.

The coaſt of Britanny being at this time quite diſfurniſhed of troops, either regulars or irregulars, had the general immediately marched againſt Port l'Orient, it is more than probable that it might, with all the vaſt wealth in it, have fallen into his hands. A party of French militia, upon the alarm of a fleet being upon their coaſts, had got together upon the beach; but the Saphire man of war bringing her guns to bear upon them, the Britiſh troops landed, were formed, and marched to a village called Movelon, which they burnt, and made themſelves maſters of a battery of two pieces of braſs cannon. After that they landed ſome braſs cannon of three pounders, and an artillery park was formed, but left under the command of its officers, while the main body advanced againſt Port l'Orient.

On the 21ſt of September they ſet out in two columns, the Highlanders and the Royal on the right, and the other regiments on the left. The roads through which they were to march being very cloſe, they were expoſed to a good deal of hedge-firing; but at laſt they arrived at the town of Plemure. This place being ſummoned, agreed to ſurrender; but it was abandoned for five hours to be pillaged by the ſoldiers, on pretence that the town's people had fired upon the Engliſh after they had agreed to ſurrender. This licenſe to plunder, it is thought, ruined the expedition; not only by exaſpe-

Geo. II. 1746. exaſperating the inhabitants; but by introducing amongſt the men a diſregard for diſcipline, and by overloading ſome of them with plunder. On the 22d, the Britiſh army marched in one column to a hill, about a mile and a half diſtant from Port l'Orient, and the town was then ſummoned by the general to ſurrender. Upon this ſummons, the deputy governor for the king, the deputy governor for the Eaſt India company, and a brigadier, came out with a flag of truce, and offered to ſurrender the town, provided the inhabitants were exempted from being plundered or moleſted; and that their magazines or warehouſes (thoſe of the French Eaſt-India company being very rich) ſhould be untouched, and that the Britiſh troops ſhould pay for every thing they had. Theſe terms were very properly refuſed by the general, who gave the inhabitants only three hours time to deliberate upon ſurrendering at diſcretion, the troops in the city to be made priſoners of war. According to the French accounts, and ſome Engliſh ones publiſhed at the time by perſons who attended the expedition, the general demanded 2,000,000 of livres contribution money, and that the town ſhould be given up to be pillaged for four hours. Whatever might be in this, it is certain he had no manner of reaſon to expect any ſuch terms, or indeed that the city ſhould be delivered up at all; nor in fact do the French, whatever they might pretend, ſeem to have had any ſuch intention. He was deſtitute of artillery fit for battering any place of ſtrength; and it was with difficulty the ſailors and the ſoldiers dragged up two pieces of iron cannon, to mount upon a battery which they had made ſhift to raiſe. In the mean while, the French, who by this parley had gained all the time they wanted, poured into the place from all quarters. The works of the town were mounted with a numerous artillery drawn from their ſhipping; new works were raiſed, and ſome regular troops had marched into the place. Notwithſtanding all that, on the 25th the general opened a battery of ten pieces of ſmall cannon, beſides the two iron guns already mentioned, and a mortar. The fire from the garriſon, however, was much ſuperior to that of the beſiegers, who at laſt threw red hot bullets into the town, and did it ſome damage. But the French, by this time, were perfectly ſenſible that the Engliſh army did not exceed 5000 men; and they had taken ſuch precautions at Port Louis, that Leſtock could not attack Port l'Orient at ſea, by which the whole of the ſcheme was diſconcerted; and a party of the French from the town attempted to deſtroy the Engliſh battery,

The town offers to capitulate.

The terms are refuſed.

It is beſieged.

battery, but were repulſed with ſome loſs. The general, however, grew every hour more ſenſible how impracticable his undertaking was, and he ſaw his ſmall body in danger of being ſurrounded in twenty-four hours, by an army of 20,000 men, in an enemy's country. Leſtock likewiſe ply'd him with continual meſſages of the danger his ſhips were in, by lying ſo long in an expoſed bay, and even threatened to ſail for England. Upon all thoſe conſiderations, the ſiege was diſcontinued, the firing ceaſed, the iron cannon were buried, and a retreat was ordered and performed with great regularity, after having about 60 men killed and about 40 wounded; four pieces of cannon and a mortar were likewiſe left behind. In the mean while, the Engliſh ſailors plundered and burnt the villages of Dovelair and Larm, and were guilty of a great many enormities on the defenceleſs coaſt, to the ſhame and ruin of all diſcipline. The troops, however, re-embarked without any further loſs; and on the 1ſt of October the whole fleet ſailed for Quiberon, where about 2000 of the troops again diſembarked, the general being in hopes of a reinforcement from England. At Quiberon the Exeter man of war drove on ſhore the Ardent, a 64 gun French ſhip, which had been ſeperated from D'Anville's ſquadron, and burnt it. Some French ſloops and ſmall craft were likewiſe burnt, and the ſailors made themſelves maſters of two ſmall iſlands, one called Houvat, the other Hydic; and blew up two forts that were on them. At laſt, after doing all the miſchief to the country they could, without bringing any advantage to themſelves, the whole re-embarked in the middle of October, and landed without any further loſs in England and Ireland.

Geo. II. 1746.

The Engliſh retire, and re-embark.

Upon the whole, this expedition was formed upon a plan of great utility to England; but was neither ſupported nor executed as it ought to have been. Had Leſtock had ſpirit enough to have bombarded Fort Louis while the troops were landing, or had the general aſſaulted l'Orient, without minding any intermediate object, the place undoubtedly muſt have fallen into the hands of the Engliſh, and the French Eaſt-India company muſt have ſuffered an irretrievable blow. But the truth is, Leſtock was by this time grown too old and infirm for enterprize, and, as was ſaid, was under the ſhameful direction of a woman he carried along with him; and neither the ſoldiers nor the ſailors, during the whole of the expedition, ſeem to have been under any kind of diſcipline.

Reflections.

During the winter of the year 1745, a ſecret treaty was negotiated, and advanced pretty far, between the French court and the king of Sardinia. But the terms having been tranſmitted

Secret negotiation between France and Sardinia.

Geo. II. 1746. transmitted to the court of Spain, were highly diſapproved of there; and his Sardinian majeſty, apprehending that the houſe of Auſtria might ſuſpect he was tampering with her enemies, put an end to the negotiation, and ſurprized Aſti, one of the ſtrongeſt places in Italy, and made the garriſon, which conſiſted of 5000 French, priſoners of war. Upon this the Spaniards, who now looked upon themſelves as being betrayed by Maillebois, the French general, raiſed the blockade of Alexandria, juſt as that city was going to ſurrender; and prince Lichtenſtein, who then commanded the Auſtrian army in Italy, begun to have thoughts of attempting the recovery of the Milaneſe.

Campaign in Italy.

The empreſs queen, by this time, having made peace with the king of Pruſſia, was at leiſure to ſupport her favourite war in Italy much more effectually than ſhe had hitherto been able to do. The Britiſh ſubſidies had enabled her generals, and the king of Sardinia, to take the field this year with great advantages. Prince Lichtenſtein was at the head of 40,000 Auſtrians, and the king of Sardinia of 36,000 of his own troops; ſo that their army was ſuperior to thoſe of France and Spain, which, including the duke of Modena's troops, did not amount in the whole to above 73,000 men. But the Spaniards, by this time, began to look upon the French as their worſt enemies; they immediately raiſed the ſiege of the citadel of Milan, and without acquainting Maillebois of their intention, they directly ſent their artillery and baggage to Pavia, at which place don Philip, the duke of Modena, and count Gages, aſſembled their army. Upon this, Maillebois, being afraid that his communication with Genoa and Provence might be cut off by the Auſtrians, whoſe ſtrength every day encreaſed in Italy, evacuated all the countries about the Tanaro and Po, and retired to Novi.

Great ſucceſſes of the Auſtrians.

In the mean while, the king of Sardinia took Caſſel and Voltenza, and afterwards recovered all the Piedmonteſe fortreſſes, and entering the Milaneſe, he drove Maillebois from Novi. The Auſtrians were equally ſucceſsful. Prince Lichtenſtein had a large body of troops near Vigevano. Berenclau, at the head of 10,000 Auſtrians, had ravaged the Cremoneſe, and taken Codogno; while a third body of Auſtrians, under Loveſtein, had taken poſſeſſion of Lodi, and beat the Spaniards at Marignano, while count Brown and general Pallavicini marched towards Parma, in order to cut off the communication between the Spaniſh general, the marquis of Caſtellaer, and count Gages. This was followed by the reduction of Guaſtalla by the Auſtrians; and the marquis of Caſtellaer being

ing obliged to abandon Parma, that city, with all its artillery, baggage, and a large magazine, fell likewiſe into the hands of the Auſtrians. Upon this, don Philip and count Gages threw themſelves into Placentia, and encamped under the cannon of that place, with an intention there to aſſemble all their army, and to wait till they could be joined by the marquis Caſtellar, who was advancing towards them under infinite difficulties. It was owing to the excellent conduct of Gages, that the armies of the two crowns, with that of don Philip and his allies, were not now intirely ruined. But his diſpoſitions were ſo excellent, that he kept the Auſtrians at bay in his camp at Placentia; and being now come to a better underſtanding with Maillebois, he was joined by the whole French army; ſo that don Philip found himſelf, on the 3d of June, at the head of 52,000 men, while the king of Sardinia was advancing with forced marches towards the Po, in order to join prince Lichtenſtein. Geo. II. 1746.

The true deſign of Gages was to have ruined the Auſtrian and Piedmonteſe armies, by obliging them to continue their fatigues and marches; and he had undoubted intelligence, that a great mortality was even then raging in Lichtenſtein's army. But this did not ſuit the fiery temper of her moſt Catholic majeſty. Grimaldi, a Genoeſe nobleman, had been ſecretly employed by the king of Spain to treat of a ſeparate peace with the queen of Hungary. This negotiation had come to the ears of the Britiſh miniſtry, who had ſhewn an extreme averſion to it; and the king of Sardinia having given full ſatisfaction as to the negotiation he had entered into with France, her Imperial majeſty rejected every thing that had been propoſed by Grimaldi. The French, who were no ſtrangers to this negotiation, being conſcious that the Spaniards had but too much reaſon to blame them, and being at this time greatly diſtreſſed for want of money, of which the Spaniards had vaſt plenty, Maillebois received orders to join don Philip as ſoon as poſſible. The junction was ſcarcely made, when her Catholic majeſty, who had, at certain ſeaſons, an intire aſcendency over her huſband, prevailed with him to ſend a peremptory order to Gages to attack the Auſtrians, without loſs of time, at all events, and under all diſadvantages. Gages knew the temper of his court too well to trifle with this order. A council of war being held, it was reſolved, without debate, to attack the Auſtrians in their camp, notwithſtanding its prodigious ſtrength both by nature and art, and many additional fortifications mounted Battle of Placentia.

Geo. II. 1746. with artillery. This camp lay at St. Lazaro, 22 miles distant from Placentia. It is allowed by an excellent hiſtorian who was preſent at this battle, that ſome of the Bourbonite generals were guilty both of miſtakes and overſights. Their cavalry was ſo diſpoſed of, as to be of no manner of uſe in the action. The enemy, during their march, though it was under the cover of night, was prepared to receive them, and they loſt ſome advantages which they gained at the beginning of the attack. Both Gages and Maillebois, however, behaved with great intrepidity; and had they been ſupported by a body of cavalry, the Auſtrians muſt have been defeated. For the Bourbonites forced their intrenchments, but neglected to point the cannon they found there againſt the Auſtrians; and when they were puſhing on to their camp, they were ſtopt all of a ſudden by a broad wet ditch, of which they had received no intelligence, and they were unprepared with faſcines to paſs it. But ſuch was the bravery of the French and Spaniards, that they ſurmounted even this difficulty; and the Auſtrians were in danger of being totally routed, when the combined army, being ſuddenly attacked by a body of Auſtrian horſe, were thrown into a confuſion, which damped their ardour: and after loſing about 6000 of their beſt troops, and having as many wounded, Gages ordered a retreat, which was performed in wonderful order, till they regained their camp at Placentia. The Auſtrians loſt about 4000 men in this battle, which did great honour to the courage as well as the conduct of Gages. For the junction between the Piedmonteſe and the Auſtrians, at the time the battle was fought, was ſo nearly effected, that the advanced poſts of the Piedmonteſe heard the firing. And had not Gages ordered the retreat in the very inſtant he did, his whole army muſt have been deſtroyed.

Bonamici.

Loſs on both ſides.

After the junction of the Auſtrians and Piedmonteſe, the king of Sardinia, in conſequence of what had been ſtipulated by the treaty of Worms, aſſumed the command of the whole, while Maillebois and count Gages, leaving the marquis of Caſtellar, with 4000 men to defend Placentia, entrenched themſelves between the Lambro and the Adda. It was of the utmoſt conſequence for his Sardinian majeſty, who was now at the head of 64,000 men, to diſlodge them from thence. He therefore ordered general Botta, who ſucceeded to the command of the Auſtrians upon prince Lichtenſtein's withdrawing from the army on account of his health, to beſiege Placentia, while he himſelf made diſpoſitions to diſlodge Maillebois

lebois and Gages, and, if poſſible, to make himſelf maſter of don Philip's perſon, whoſe head quarters were at Codogno; and, in effect, thoſe two generals ſoon found themſelves ſurrounded. Geo. II. 1746.

Death of Philip V. king of Spain.

An event happened at this time, which bid fair to alter the face of affairs in Europe. This was the death of Philip V. of Spain, in the ſixty-third year of his age. He had received, a little time before his death, a letter from Gages, with an account of the battle of Placentia, and an inſinuation that he had loſt it, by being bound down to obey his majeſty's peremptory orders. The chief characters of this prince, for the laſt twenty years of his life, were indolence, uxorioufneſs, and bigotry; but he was not thought to be naturally void either of ſenſe or courage. He was leſs addicted to the intereſts of France, than could be well expected from a prince of the houſe of Bourbon, or from one who lay under ſuch infinite obligations, as he did, to that crown. Even his uxorioufneſs was kept up by his prieſts, who were devoted to the queen, and who took advantages over ſome peculiarities of his conſtitution, which gave her an aſcendency over him, and which ſhe never failed to improve to the advantage of herſelf and children.

Battle of Rotto-Fredo.

The news of Philip's death being known in don Philip's camp, Mailleboi, ignorant of the ſentiments which his ſon and ſucceſſor Ferdinand might entertain as to the Italian war, began to think of ſecuring his communication with France; and therefore, while the Auſtrians made themſelves maſters of Lodi, and had hemmed in don Philip and his army on all ſides, he propoſed retreating to Tortona. This was looked upon to be a moſt deſperate expedient, and for ſome time was oppoſed by Gages. But the French intereſt at the Spaniſh court was now ſo great, that the new king ſent an order to Gages, under his own hand, for that retreat. The king of Sardinia ſtill purſued, and this brought on the battle of Rotto-fredo, in which Gages, whoſe orders had been diſobeyed by Pignatelli, a general officer under him, behaved with his uſual addreſs and intrepidity, and Maillebois performed all the parts of an able general. The Bourbonites, however, fought under ſuch prodigious diſadvantages, that victory declared itſelf for their enemies, who took poſſeſſion of Placentia, and made an irruption into the weſtern Riviera of Genoa, towards Albenga, at firſt with great ſucceſs, but with ſome barbarity. Count Gages, by this time, was continuing his march towards Tortona and Gavi, where he intended

Geo. II. 1746. tended to canton his army till he could receive reinforcements. But he had received an order from his new maſter to reſign his command to the marquis de las Minas, which he obeyed. The king of Sardinia and Botta, all this time, were in full purſuit of their enemies, and the diſpoſition which Gages had made, but had been forced to abandons were ſo excellent, that the Bourbonites might have ſtood their ground at Tortona. But the ſyſtem of the Spaniſh court was altered, and Minas was charged by all means to ſpare his troops, and, if poſſible, to proceed in the way of negotiation. For ſome time he diſſembled his inſtructions; and upon the Genoeſe expreſſing their apprehenſions of being abandoned to the mercy of the Auſtrians, he declared, he would defend that city to the laſt. Notwithſtanding this, the Auſtrians and Piedmonteſe continued to carry every thing before them, and don Philip, with Minas, abandoned the defence of Genoa, and continued their retreat towards France; after having moſt falſely and ungenerouſly thrown the blame of their retreat upon the Genoeſe themſelves. It was computed, that the army under don Philip, ſince the opening of the campaign 1746, loſt about 40,000 men, of whom about 24,000 were taken priſoners.

Gages diſplaced from his command.

The Genoeſe abandoned.

The Genoeſe being thus moſt ungratefully deſerted by the Bourbonites, the Auſtrians advanced as far as their ſuburbs. Upon this, the defenceleſs Genoeſe applied to Botta, from whom they had ſome reaſon to expect favour, to know what terms he inſiſted on; and he haughtily threw them down a paper, containing the following articles. "That one of the gates of the city ſhall immediately be delivered up. That the ſenate ſhall order the garriſon of Gavi, as well as that of Genoa, to ſurrender themſelves priſoners of war to the Auſtrians. That as long as the war continues, the Auſtrians and their allies ſhall have free acceſs into all their cities and fortreſſes. That all the harbours and ports of the republic ſhall be open and free to the Auſtrians and their allies, their ſailors and ſhipmaſters. That the Genoeſe ſhall commit no hoſtilities againſt the Auſtrians or their allies, nor ſuffer them to be committed by any of their ſubjects. That they ſhall immediately deliver up all the arms, artillery, and other warlike ſtores belonging to the French, Spaniards, or Neapolitans, and diſcover all the officers and ſoldiers of either of theſe nations now in Genoa, without the leaſt exception. That all the Auſtrian priſoners of war and deſerters ſhall be given up directly. That the Doge, together with ſix ſenators, ſhall repair

The terms of ſurrender preſcribed to them.

repair to Vienna, to implore the queen's clemency, and beg her pardon. That they ſhall give four ſenators to be ſent to Milan, as hoſtages for the due performance of thoſe articles: and beſides paying immediately 50,000 ſequins to be diſtributed amongſt the ſoldiers, they ſhall oblige themſelves to pay count Choteck, commiſſary general of the army in Italy, whatever ſum ſhall be agreed on. And finally, that they ſhall have the ſpace of twenty hours, and no more, to deliberate whether they will ſurrender or no upon theſe conditions." Geo. II. 1746.

Some of thoſe articles were harſh, others of them were vague, but all of them were mortifying. The deputies complained of the ſhortneſs of the time, as not ſufficient for having the Auſtrian requeſts complied with according to law. But Botta told them, with an inſulting ſmile, that his battalions ſhould give them law. Upon the return of the deputies, the ſenate was convened; and the fortifications of the city being ſurveyed by proper officers, were reported not to be tenable. Great debates, however, aroſe amongſt the members concerning the Auſtrians demands; and though neceſſity obliged them to comply with them, yet a ſtrong party not only warmly oppoſed this compliance, but formed a ſecret conſpiracy for delivering their country. Genoa being thus put into the hands of the Auſtrians, felt all the miſeries of a conquered people. The king of Sardinia and general Browne, with 45,000 men, marched towards Provence in purſuit of don Philip and his army; and general Botta was left with 15,000 Auſtrians and Piedmonteſe, with which he took poſſeſſion of the principal gates of Genoa. It is certain, that Botta's conduct on this occaſion, was equally barbarous and impolitic. He pretended, that his ſoldiers living at free quarter, though not expreſſed in the articles, was a neceſſary conſequence of them, as was a large ſum which he demanded for forage, firing, and other proviſions. At the ſame time that he was inflicting thoſe and many other ſeverities upon the Genoeſe, he deſpiſed them ſo much, that he left them in poſſeſſion of their arms and ammunition, and threatened them with military execution upon the ſmalleſt difficulty they made in complying with his moſt exorbitant demands. Inſolence of Botta, and want of policy.

The Spaniards being now in a manner drove out of Italy, it became a very ſerious matter with Great Britain and her allies to what quarter they ſhould next point their arms. Botta, the Imperial general, who knew how much the heart of his miſtreſs was ſet upon reconquering Naples, propoſed Project of invading Naples,

Geo. II 1745. that the Genoeſe ſhould immediately be obliged to furniſh tranſports for invading that kingdom. Had this expedition been inſtantly attempted, the appearances of ſucceſs were great; the king of Naples having, at that time, few or no troops on foot, but ſuch as had been obliged to retire with don Philip into Provence. But the moderation of Great Britain, and the refined policy of his Sardinian majeſty, diſappointed Botta's ſcheme. The new alliance between the king of Naples and the elector of Saxony, who had deſerved well of the confederates, and conſiderations built upon the general plan of power, made it more elegible for England to diſtreſs the French than the Neapolitan territories. The king of Sardinia had ſtill ſtronger reaſons to be of the ſame opinion, as it could not be for his family-intereſt to ſee the houſe of Auſtria all-powerful in Italy, as it muſt have been, had it dethroned the king of Naples. It was therefore judged more for the common intereſt, that Brown, a bold and enterprizing general, ſhould paſs the Var, and penetrate into France, while the king of Sardinia ſhould lay ſiege to Antibes, in which the Britiſh fleet could be highly ſerviceable. This plan of operations was finally concerted in the ſuburb of St. Peter D'Arena in Genoa, between Mr. Villet the Britiſh miniſter, and the Auſtrian and Sardinian miniſters. Brown, who was extreamly fond of his projected expedition, immediately went to Nice, where the king of Sardinia was juſt recovering of the ſmall-pox, after having reduced all the Genoeſe towns and territories between Genoa and Villa Franca. Brown then ſettled the operations of the war, which were, that his army ſhould be reinforced with as many troops as poſſible from Italy, and that the Britiſh fleet ſhould tranſport the artillery, ammunition, and other proviſions from Genoa.

ſet aſide.

Operations of the Genoeſe.

While thoſe preparations were making, Choteck, the Auſtrian commiſſary general, was buſied in ſettling, with the Genoeſe deputies, the ſum of money which they were to pay, and which he fixed at three millions of genouins*, to be paid in three equal payments, the laſt payment to be made

* This ſum, when reduced to ſterling money, amounts to upwards of 103,000 l. which, conſidering the vaſt contributions which the Genoeſe were otherwiſe obliged to pay, was an immenſe ſum for an exhauſted city to raiſe. Bonamici therefore, or his tranſlator, p. 401. muſt be greatly miſtaken in making the ſum demanded on this occaſion to be between ſix and ſeven millions ſterling.

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in a fortnight, otherwiſe the city and the citizens were to be given up to fire and ſword. The nature of an Auſtrian commiſſary, who is a leech that equally ſucks the ſovereign as the ſoldier, is well known; ſo that all the prayers and remonſtrances of the Genoeſe to receive a mitigation of this ſum, had little or no influence upon Choteck. They were obliged inſtantly to make the firſt payment out of the money depoſited in the bank of St. George. They ſent a deputation to the court of Vienna itſelf; and even his holineſs the pope intereſted himſelf with the empreſs queen in their favour: but all was in vain. Inſtead of a diminution, the Auſtrian general and commiſſary ſeemed to think they had been by far too moderate in their demands, and the empreſs queen ſent them a declaration, which little leſs than doubled the ſum, and required the whole to be paid in ready money. It was with the utmoſt difficulty that the ſecond payment was made; but the Auſtrians being poſſeſſed of a notion, which was not groundleſs, that though the government of Genoa was exhauſted, yet that many of their individuals were immenſely rich, ſtill advanced in their demands; and the ſenate took care, that all the ſums paid to the Auſtrians, ſhould be carried with great parade to their quarters in full view of the people. This had the effect they ſecretly deſired, which was to render matters ripe for a revolt, without their being openly concerned in it: though ſome of the ſenators were bold enough to diſguiſe themſelves in plebeian dreſſes, and mixing with the common people, blew the flame of diſcontent, which, notwithſtanding all the terror of the Auſtrian general and army, at laſt broke out. Geo. I. 1746.

For the ſiege of Antibes being reſolved upon, Botta, amongſt other pieces of artillery which he deſigned to be put on board the Britiſh fleet for carrying on that ſiege, ordered a large mortar, which happened to be overturned in the ſtreets, and an Auſtrian officer endeavouring to oblige ſome of the inhabitants of Genoa to aſſiſt in dragging it down to the harbour, they refuſed; and he ſtriking one of them with his cane, a ſhower of ſtones from the reſt obliged the Auſtrians for that night to retire. Next day, when Botta prepared to chaſtiſe the inſurgents, he found them grown to a formidable head, and without entering into the particulars of the inſurrection, all the intrepidity and diſcipline of his troops could not withſtand that ſpirit of liberty which once more animated thoſe republicans, who for many years had been looked upon as degenerated, even to a proverb. According to Bonamici, a Britiſh

They throw off the Auſtrian yoke.

Geo. II. 1745. tiſh man of war had been ſent thither by his Sardinian majeſty, to bring off for him part of the plunder; and we are told, that that monarch was by no means pleaſed with the independent negotiation which the Auſtrians had entered into with the Genoeſe.

However that may be, it is certain that Botta, in his turn, made application for ſome reſpite of hoſtilities. But the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages ſeized with the ſame ſpirit as thoſe of Genoa, had, by this time, taken arms, and poured into the city. The effect was, that the Auſtrian regulars, notwithſtanding ſome advantages they had gained at firſt, were driven from one ſtrong poſt to another, till Botta applied to the ſenate, and, under pretence of the capitulation, demanding that they ſhould unarm their ſoldiers, and join with him in ſuppreſſing the inſurrection. The doge and ſenate of Genoa, upon this occaſion, behaved with wonderful addreſs, and temporized ſo well, that they neither diſcouraged the inſurgents, nor did they give Botta any juſt handle to accuſe them of breach of faith. By this time, the inſurgents, by the help of ſome French and Spaniſh officers who were priſoners to the Auſtrians, but had mingled themſelves in diſguiſes with the Genoeſe, were diſciplined and rendered excellent troops, and they had regularly fortified all the ſtrong poſts of the city; nor would they longer hear of any terms, but that the Auſtrians ſhould evacuate the city, reſtore their artillery, and give them an acquittance of all further demands of any kind. Upon this Botta, after another deſperate, but fruitleſs, attempt to recover poſſeſſion of the city, found himſelf obliged to evacuate the ſame, which he did with great loſs to himſelf, and ſatisfaction to the Genoeſe.

Prudence of the doge and ſenators of Genoa,

The ſituation of Genoa, at this time, was ſo critical and ſo important to the intereſts of the powers at war, that all Europe was intereſted in its fate. The Genoeſe conſidered the court of England as the dictator of all the councils of their enemies, and during the whole courſe of the war, they had been particularly tender of offending the Britiſh nation. Upon the recovery of their liberty, they nominated Doria, one of the moſt illuſtrious of their ſenators, to repair, as their ambaſſador extraordinary, to his Britannic majeſty, to lay before him a true ſtate of their conduct, and to endeavour to bring him to be reconciled to it, not doubting if they could effect that, they could ſoon compromiſe matters with their Imperial and Sardinian majeſties. Doria had orders to take the court of France in his way, where he was to execute a ſecret commiſſion, and from thence he was to ſend for

The Genoeſe ſend an ambaſſador extraordinary to England, who is not admitted.

for a paſſport to London. But the queen of Hungary continued ſo much exaſperated at the republick, and had made ſuch repreſentations of the behaviour of the Genoeſe, that the Britiſh court did not think proper to ſuffer Doria to come to England. Geo. II. 1746.

In the mean while the king of Naples, having renewed his profeſſions of neutrality, was ſuffered to tranſport the few remains of his troops from Antibes to his own dominions. The fine army of the Spaniards that had entered Italy, was reduced to few more than 2000 men; and Maillebois having left ſome advantageous poſts well guarded to interrupt the enemy's progreſs, paſſed the Var.

Invaſion of France by the Auſtrians under Brown.

The new king of Spain begun now to ſee that he had been ill adviſed in ordering his troops to evacuate Italy in the manner he did, and he threw the blame of the whole upon D'Argençon, who, upon his requeſt was diſgraced, and Maillebois, his creature, was obliged to reſign his command to the marſhal Belleiſle. It was thought that the king of Sardinia, had he not fallen ill, would have commanded the irruption into France; but Brown behaved with great ſpirit and reſolution, being aſſiſted by Medley, the Britiſh admiral, and a detachment of 1000 men from the garriſons of Port Mahon and Gibraltar. He was at the head of 47 Imperial and 22 Piedmonteſe battalions, beſides a great number of irregulars, amounting in the whole to about 50,000 men, all of them choice troops. Having diſlodged all the French, who had been left by Maillebois, from their poſts upon the banks of the Var, they retreated to Grace, and on the 9th of November the Auſtrians begun to paſs that river, and met with very little oppoſition from the French. Belleiſle had not been enabled to aſſemble above 20,000 regular troops, the reſt of his army were militia, and he continued retreating before the Auſtrians, who had advanced as far as Dragnignan, laying the whole country under contribution. He then turned off to Frejus, in order to favour baron Roth, who, aſſiſted by the Britiſh ſquadron, had formed the ſiege of Antibes with 24 battalions on the land ſide. In the mean while, vice-admiral Medley being arrived, on the 29th of November, N. S. in Villa Franca harbour, and having, in purſuance of a plan ſettled between him and the Auſtrian general, ordered the Phœnix, Terrible ſloop, and the Barcolongo, (on board of which a party of German ſoldiers were embarked) with eight pinnaces, under the command of captain Forbes, to take ſtations along the ſhore to the weſtward of the Var, they

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Geo. II. 1746. ſtationed themſelves accordingly, and at day-break made a very briſk fire upon the French poſted to the left of St. Laurent, and did ſo great ſervice, that general Brown gave the greateſt encomiums of the behaviour of the Engliſh ſeamen, crying out aloud ſeveral times, that they had bravely ſeconded him, and contributed towards his ſucceſs, by ſcouring away every thing that appeared upon the ſhore, and thereby greatly increaſing the diſorder and conſternation of the enemy.

Notwithſtanding all thoſe promiſing appearances, Belleiſle, the French general, well knew the impoſſibility of ſucceeding in any enterprize of that kind, and one of his ends in retreating, was to draw the Auſtrians and Piedmonteſe further into the territories of France. The ſiege of Antibes ſtill went on, and upon the 20th of September the Britiſh ſquadron begun to bombard it very ſeverely. But it was well defended. Though the bombardment had done great damage to the place, yet the chevalier de Sade, who commanded in it, made a vigorous defence. He had been aſſured by Belleiſle of a ſpeedy relief; and the French army, conſiſting now of 50,000 regular troops, beſides a great number of irregulars, repaſſed the Argens, with a view to give battle to Brown, whoſe army was greatly diminiſhed by ſickneſs and deſertion. Belleiſle took ſome advanced poſts of the Auſtrians, and made a lieutenant-general and four battalions priſoners; and Brown finding no hopes of ſucceſs, made diſpoſitions for raiſing the ſiege of Antibes, and repaſſing the Var, which he happily effected without loſs. In this campaign, no potentate gained ſo much in point either of glory or territory, as did the king of Sardinia, to whom his ſubjects erected a monument, with the inſcription which the reader will find in the notes *.

who is forced to abandon his enterprize.

* The city of Turin,
as an effect of her devotion to the tutelary majeſty
of the beſt and moſt magnificent princes;
To CHARLES EMANUEL,
The triumpher,
who,
after having retaken Aſti, Alexandria, Acqui,
Caſal, Valenza, Tortona,
defeated the enemy at Placentia, and upon the Fidone,
won the fortreſs of Final, Ventimigha, and Savona,
ſubdued Liguria,
obliged the French and Spaniards to repaſs the Var,
and confirmed the liberty of Italy,
in the year 1746.

While

While the war was thus with various ſucceſs carrying on in Europe, the French were meditating the extenſion of their trade in the Eaſt-Indies. The reader has already ſeen the ſucceſſes of commodore Barnet in thoſe places. But the great indolence and neglect of the Engliſh Eaſt-India company there, gave the French hopes of being able to extirpate them. M. Mahe de la Bourdonnais had ſome years before been ſent with a proper reinforcement to the French ſettlements in the Eaſt-Indies; and in the year 1742, before the war broke out between the two crowns, a kind of treaty of neutrality had been propoſed by the French company in the Eaſt-Indies. This treaty was approved of by the French miniſtry, but was rejected by the Engliſh Eaſt-India company, either in hopes, or under ſome aſſurance, that they would, in all events, be furniſhed by the government with a maritime force ſufficient not only to defend themſelves, but to ruin the French trade. The captures which commodore Barnet made, encouraged them in this plan; but Barnet dying, the command of the Engliſh ſquadron in the Eaſt-Indies devolved to captain Peyton, and his ſquadron conſiſted of the following ſhips: Medway, commodore Peyton, 400 men, 60 guns; Preſton, lord Northeſk, 300 men, 50 guns; Norwich, captain Cartret, 300 men, 50 guns; Wincheſter, lord Thomas Bartie, 300 men, 50 guns; Medway's prize, captain Griffith, 240 men, 40 guns; Lively, captain Stevens, 120 men, 20 guns. Geo. II. 1746. Affairs of the Engliſh in the Eaſt-Indies.

This ſquadron, however, was only ſtrong enough to make depredations upon the French trade, but not to protect the Engliſh ſettlements, or to attack thoſe of the French in the Eaſt-Indies. The French, upon a much better plan of policy, thought it would be of greater advantage for them to put their own ſettlements in a defenſible ſituation, and to increaſe their naval force, ſo as to be able to attack thoſe of the Engliſh, that thereby they might ſtrike at the very root of the Engliſh ſettlements. De la Bourdonnais received a commiſſion at Pondicherry for this purpoſe, and Dupliex, the governor, ſtrongly fortified the garriſon there. Bourdonnais, at that time, commanded a ſtrong ſquadron, conſiſting of the Achilles, of 74 guns, and 700 men; Duc d'Orleans and the Bourbon, of 56 guns; the Neptune and the Phœnix, of 54 guns; and the St. Louis of 40, each with 400 men; the Lis of 40 guns, and 300 men; and the Inſalaire, of 20 guns, and 250 men, the laſt ſeven being company ſhips, fitted out as men of war. The Engliſh then lay at Fort St. David, which

Geo. II. 1746. which was twenty miles ſouth of Pondicherry, but afterwards, on the 24th of June, anchored in Negapatam road, where the Britiſh commodore had a ſmall encounter with the French ſquadron, which ſoon after returned to Pondicherry, while the Britiſh fleet, who were equal in every reſpect to the French who had engaged, moſt ſhamefully ſuffered them to eſcape, and Peyton proceeded to Trinquimale bay, on the north-eaſt part of the iſland of Ceylon. Peyton afterwards, on the 3d of Auguſt, appeared off Negapatam, and was once more provoked by Bourdonnais to an engagement, which was declined by the Britiſh commodore, who proceeded up the bay of Bengal, while the French, on the 13th of Auguſt, returned to Pondicherry.

Shameful conduct of an Engliſh commodore there.

Madraſs attacked.

Bourdonnais was now convinced that he had nothing to fear from the valour of the Britiſh commodore, and therefore prepared to attack Madraſs. To make ſure of his blow, and for fear that Peyton might interrupt his operations, he appeared before the place, before he had any intention to attack it in earneſt. But ſome cannon ſhot being exchanged between one of the company's ſhips and the fort with the French, and Peyton not appearing, Bourdonnais conſequently concluded, that he had abandoned the defence of Madraſs; and on the 3d of September he appeared before it with all his ſquadron, having on board 3200 Europeans, with a great number of the natives of the country, particularly from Coromandel.

Mr. Morſe was then the principal perſon who acted for the Engliſh ſettlement at Madraſs, and he had under him a proper council: but Bourdonnais perceiving by the conduct of the Engliſh commodore, that Madraſs was abandoned by ſea, made diſpoſitions for attacking it. The indolence of the Engliſh company, upon this occaſion, was amazing. Mr. Morſe had again and again informed them, that the place was not tenable in caſe of an attack; but they had neglected either to repair or fortify it, nor was there a garriſon in the place ſtrong enough to defend it. Three hundred men, and many of thoſe incapable to do duty, was all the garriſon; and it was eaſy to be foreſeen, that they could not hold out long. When Bourdonnais came before it with about 600 ſoldiers, which was ſpeedily reinforced with 300 more, he plied it with bomb ſhells both by ſea and land; upon which the Engliſh, to avoid a general ſlaughter in caſe the place had been taken by aſſault, reſolved to capitulate. Accordingly a deputation was ſent to Bourdonnais, and the articles

Capitulation agreed to.

articles of capitulation were agreed on. But the French governor of Pondicherry, by the advice of his council, vacated the whole tranſaction between the Engliſh company and de la Bourdonnais, declaring, that the latter had no authority for what he had done. Mr. Morſe, in anſwer to this declaration, ſent a kind of a counter proteſt to the French at Pondicherry, in which he inſiſted upon the validity of the negotiation with Bourdonnais. But the latter found himſelf unable to make good his capitulation, and the French moſt perfidiouſly took poſſeſſion of the place, and of all the effects of the Engliſh. Soon after, a ſtrong reinforcement came to Bourdonnois, which might have enabled him to deſtroy all the Engliſh ſettlements upon the coaſt of Coromandel; but a violent ſtorm overtook his fleet, and rendered the greateſt part of it unfit for ſervice. Soon after, the nabob of Arcot made an attempt to diſpoſſeſs the French from Madraſs; but it was unſucceſsful. After this the French garriſon of Pondicherry made an aſſault upon Fort St. David, but were repulſed; and the arrival of a Britiſh ſquadron in a ſhort time, put the Engliſh ſettlements in the Eaſt-Indies out of further apprehenſion. Geo. II. 1746. Broken by the French.

In the Weſt-Indies, nothing of great importance happened this year. The Spaniards had nothing ſo much in view as to get their treaſures ſafely home to Old Spain, which they effected with great ſucceſs. The French having been prodigious ſufferers by the captures made of their ſhips the former year, a new regulation was made, by which it was rendered penal for their ſhips to ſail without convoy. This had the deſired effect; and commodore Conflans was very ſucceſsful in protecting the French trade to and from America. Vice-admiral Davers had intelligence that Conflans was convoying a French fleet of merchantmen to Martinico, and ſent commodore Mitchel in the Stafford of 70 guns, with the Lennox of 64 guns, the Plymouth and the Worceſter of 60 guns, with the Drake ſloop, to intercept him. Mitchel lay off cape Nichola, and had ſight of the French fleet, conſiſting of four ſhips of war and 60 merchant-men. But though it was in his power to have deſtroyed them, he not only ſhamefully ſuffered them to paſs, but was inſulted by them, and they returned ſafe to France. The truth is, the great prizes that had been made of Spaniſh ſhips, had given many of the Britiſh commanders too great an unconcern about the protection of the trade of Great Britain, and the French privateers every day made vaſt depredations upon the commerce of England. Mitchel Affairs in the Weſt-Indies.

was

Geo. II. 1746. was afterwards tried, and broke, while Davers, who was a vigilant commander, died of a fever at Jamaica. Notwithſtanding all the overſight of the Engliſh commanders this year, the value of the captures made by the Britiſh ſhips, greatly exceeded thoſe made by their enemies. No fewer than 3 French men of war, 38 privateers, 2 Guinea ſhips, 94 Domingo and Martinico ſhips, with other veſſels, amounting in the whole to 143, were taken by the Britiſh fleets. They likewiſe took 6 very rich regiſter ſhips, 13 privateers, and 41 merchant ſhips from the Spaniards. The number of the ſhips taken by the enemy was greater, but their value was not near ſo conſiderable.

The parliament ſits.

On the 18th of November, both houſes of parliament met. His majeſty's ſpeech upon this occaſion was in the following terms:

King's ſpeech.

"The ſtate of the war abroad has received a conſiderable alteration. Though France has made ſome further progreſs in the Netherlands, yet the United Provinces, whoſe intereſts are ſo ſtrictly connected with ours, have been preſerved from that danger which threatened them at the opening of the campain, and a conſiderable army remains there for their defence. It has pleaſed God to bleſs the arms of my good allies, the empreſs queen of Hungary and the king of Sardinia, with ſignal ſucceſſes in Italy. The acquiſitions made there by our enemies, have been recovered from them: their forces broken and almoſt ruined, have been obliged to evacuate that country; and an irruption is now actually making into France, whereby the diſtreſſes of that kingdom muſt be greatly increaſed, and a proportionable diverſion made in favour of the Low Countries.

"I have often aſſured you, that my ſole aim in carrying on this juſt and neceſſary war, is a ſafe and honourable peace. In this view I have ſhewn a ſincere diſpoſition towards a general pacification. I have conſented to the holding conferences at Breda, in order to try whether our enemies will, in the event, agree to ſuch terms and conditions, as may be conſiſtent with the honour of my crown, the ſecurity and true intereſts of my kingdoms, and my engagements to my allies, whom it is my firm reſolution never to abandon.

"But whilſt we are treating of peace, reaſon and good policy demand we ſhould be prepared for war. I am therefore actually concerting with my allies the proper meaſures for vigorouſly purſuing the war another campaign, in caſe the obſtinacy of our enemies ſhould render it neceſſary. My deſire is to adjuſt theſe meaſures as ſpeedily as poſſible, that

our

our preparations may be early; that the confederate army in the Netherlands may be augmented in time, and the operations on the ſide of Italy be carried on with effect. It ſhall alſo be my particular care to direct our ſtrength at ſea, in the moſt effectual manner, for the defence of my kingdoms and poſſeſſions, the protection of the trade of my ſubjects, and the annoyance of our enemies." Geo. II. 1746.

"Gentlemen of the houſe of commons,

"I have ordered the eſtimates of the enſuing year to be laid before you; and deſire you to grant me ſuch ſupplies, as ſhall be requiſite for your own ſecurity, and for carrying on ſuch meaſures as it ſhall be neceſſary for Great Britain to purſue in the preſent important conjuncture. It gives me much concern to be obliged at the ſame time to acquaint you, that by reaſon of the unavoidable accidents and conſequences of war, the funds appropriated for the ſupport of my civil government, have, for ſome years paſt, fallen greatly ſhort of the revenue intended and granted by parliament. I therefore rely on your known affection to me, to find out ſome method to make good this deficiency."

This authentic notice of the deficiency of the funds for the ſupport of the government, was very alarming to the nation. But the houſe of commons were in ſo good a humour, that they concluded their addreſs as follows:

Addreſs of the houſe of commons.

"We acknowledge, with the deepeſt ſenſe of gratitude, your majeſty's great care and paternal tenderneſs for your people expreſſed in your majeſty's endeavours to procure a general pacification; and we do, at the ſame time, with the greateſt duty and affection, aſſure your majeſty, that your faithful commons will grant ſuch timely and adequate ſupplies, as may, with the hearty concurrence and united efforts of your allies, enable your majeſty either to carry on the war in a moſt effectual manner both by ſea and land, or to obtain ſuch a peace as may be conſiſtent with the honour of your crown, your engagements to your allies, and the true intereſt of your people.

"We humbly aſſure your majeſty, that we will take into our conſideration, and make good, whatever deficiencies ſhall appear to us to have ariſen from the funds appropriated for the ſupport of your majeſty's civil government; and in this, and all other matters recommended to us by your majeſty, we will proceed with that zeal, diſpatch, and unanimity, as ſhall manifeſt to the world our dutiful attachment to your majeſty's perſon and government, and our conſtant attention to the welfare and proſperity of your kingdoms."

The

Geo. II. 1746. The houſe of peers was equally loyal in its addreſs of thanks, and few or no debates happened upon thoſe points which uſed to create the greateſt. Mr. Pelham was then conſidered as firſt miniſter, and he made no difficulty of owning, that the ſtate of affairs upon the continent were ſuch, as would require very large ſupplies of money. The parliament and the nation readily agreed to all that was demanded, which, indeed, was an immenſe ſum; 433,000l. was voted to be granted to the empreſs queen of Hungary, and 300,000l. to the king of Sardinia. Eighteen thouſand Hanoverian auxiliaries, for the ſervice of the current year, were voted at the expence of 410,000l. and 161,607l. were granted for 6000 Heſſians. Subſidies were voted for the electors of Cologne, Mentz, and Bavaria, and 500,000l. was given to his majeſty for carrying on the war. In ſhort, the whole of the money granted on this occaſion, was 9,425,254l. In order to raiſe this immenſe ſum, the land-tax was laid at 4s. in the pound. 4,000,000l. were raiſed by transferrable annuities at 4 per cent. with a premium of 10 per cent. A new tax was laid on houſes and windows, as a fund for thoſe annuities, and a freſh tax on coaches and wheel-carriages was reſolved on, and to be charged with 1,000,000l. to be raiſed by way of lottery. There remained in the Exchequer of the additional duties on ſpirituous liquors, granted 1743, 112,508l. 19s. 2d. The malt tax was computed at 750,000l. A 1,000,000l. was taken from the ſurpluſſes of the ſinking fund, and his majeſty was enabled to raiſe 500,000l. by loans on exchequer-bills, to be charged on the ſupplies of next ſeſſion. And a tax of 5l. a year was laid upon every diſtiller within the bills of mortality, who took out a licence to retail ſpirituous liquors.

Grants of money.

Thoſe great points being ſettled, the further ſuſpenſion of the Habeas Corpus act was paſſed by the houſe of peers, and ſent down to the houſe of commons, where it met with ſome oppoſition by ſir John Hind Cotton and ſome of the tories, who thought that the very remains of the rebellion being now extinguiſhed, there was no occaſion for ſuch a violent ſtretch of law, as a ſuſpenſion of the ſacred bulwark of the Engliſh liberty. But it is now neceſſary to attend to the affairs of the young pretender, which will better explain the expediency of the ſuſpenſion [a].

[a] The following curious account of the young pretender's migrations after the battle of Culloden, we can aſſure our readers is taken from an authentic journal communicated by himſelf, to ſome of his adherents in France, but never publiſhed.

This

This adventurer, as has been already mentioned, after the decisive battle of Culloden was fought, had an interview with lord Lovat; but not having either the constancy or the courage to pursue the measures laid down for recovering his affairs, he set out immediately for Fort Augustus, and pursued his journey to Inverary, and from thence to Glenpean, from whence, on the 17th of April, he moved to Meubal, which is near the western coast, where he was in some hopes of meeting with a ship to carry him back to France. Being disappointed in this, on the 19th he walked to Glemorror, and from thence to Glenbiasdale, where he resolved to wait till he could get some intelligence of the state of his affairs. Here he was in a most miserable condition; he had passed several days and nights without sleep, and almost without food; he had dismissed the few attendants he had with him, and wandered about on foot. At last one of them, O Neal, came to him at Glenbiasdale, and told him, all was desperate. Notwithstanding his destitute condition, he still found friends who were faithful to his fortune, and who, though they were the very lowest rank of mankind, resisted the sum of 30,000 l. which they knew was set upon his head, though they might have delivered him up without danger or difficulty. On the 26th of April he went on board an open boat in Lochnanuagh, in the evening, and sailed for the Long Isle. This boat had been obtained for him by the means of Donald M'Leod, and it was intended that it should carry him to Stornway. On the 27th, he again set sail in his boat, and after a run of about twenty leagues in the midst of a most dreadful storm, he landed at a point called Rosinish, belonging to the western isles, and about ten leagues distant from Stornway, which lies in the island of Lewis, the northernmost and most remote of all the western islands. His companions at Rosinish were Sullivan and O Neal, two of his Irish attendants; and notwithstanding the terrible storm he had endured, and his being destitute of all the necessaries of life, he employed all his interest and authority to engage the crew of the boat to proceed immediately to Stornway; and though the storm continued, they set sail on the 29th, but on the 30th they were driven upon the isle of Scalpay, or Glass, where they went ashore to a farmer's house, and passed for shipwreck'd merchants, father and son, who were personated by Sullivan and Charles. Here, however, he reposed for some days, and sent to M'Leod, who resided at Stornway, to prepare him a ship to carry him to Orkney. But M'Leod getting drunk, after he had hired the ship, divulged

Geo. II. 1746.

History of the young pretender, from his own journals, till his escape to France.

Geo. II. 1746. for whoſe uſe it was intended; and the inhabitants of Stornoway, to the number of 200, getting under arms, were prepared to receive him. It was by very good fortune for the young pretender, that he eſcaped this danger; for on the 4th of May he proceeded to Lochdheſſort, from whence they ſet out on foot to Ayrniſh point, during a moſt dreadful rain in which they wandred for eighteen hours. They had the good fortune, however, to meet with a friend, who ſupplied them with ſome brandy and biſcuit, which kept them alive; and finding themſelves diſappointed of a ſhip, they ſet ſail again, and put into the deſolate iſle of Iſſurt, and kept rowing for ſome time between that and Glaſs. Here ſome Engliſh ſhips appeared, by which they were in the moſt imminent danger of being diſcovered; nor had they the leaſt ſubſiſtance but ſome ſalt fiſh which they found upon the rocks. At laſt, on the 11th, they were eſpied by an Engliſh ſhip of war, commanded by captain Ferguſon, amongſt the rocks of Roudil point, and afterwards by another ſhip; but eſcaped to Loch Eſcaby. By this time it was perfectly well known to the military that Charles was in thoſe parts, and the iſlands where he lurked were immediately ſurrounded by ſhips of war, and filled with troops and militia. This obliged the pretender, on the 16th of May, to go from Loch Eſcaby to the mountain of Coradale, upon the northern part of the iſland of Viſt. Here Charles lay ſometimes whole nights by himſelf upon the bare rocks, while either the dread of the militia, the king's troops, or the ſailors, who were ſearching round for him on all ſides, compelled him to diſmiſs his attendants, who had the good fortune to conceal their boat in a cave. Not only their proviſions, but their cloaths, were now at an end; ſo miſerable was Charles's condition at that time, that he had ſome thoughts of ſurrendering himſelf to general Campbel, or to captain Scott, both of whom were in ſearch of him, and ſometimes with him, upon the ſame iſland. But hardſhips became now ſo familiar to him, that he determined, if poſſible, to effect his eſcape. With this view, a young gentlewoman, of the name of Macdonald, was applied to, who after ſome difficulty undertook to aſſiſt him; and Charles conſented to be dreſſed in woman's cloaths. On the 14th of June he ſailed to Ovia, from whence, according to appointment with miſs Macdonald, on the 18th he went to Roſſiniſh, where after encountering great difficulties in eſcaping the militia and the country people, he at laſt met with the young lady, and lived from the 20th to the 28th, in the cleft of a rock at Uiſiniſh point; thence went to Celiſtiella,

lieſtiella, moving backwards and forwards till he embarked Geo. II.
in a female habit with miſs Flora Macdonald. Their firſt 1746.
deſign was to have gone to Clanronald's houſe; but under-
ſtanding that general Campbel was there, they croſſed over to Kilbride in the iſle of Sky, after having been fired at by the militia at Waterniſh, and went thence to Kinſbury. He had now diſmiſſed his two Iriſh attendants, and appeared in the character of miſs Macdonald's waiting maid, one Maclean ſerving as their footman, their boat being manned with two rowers, and often attacked by the armed veſſels and boats which kept cruiſing amongſt the coaſts, on the certain intelligence they had of his being in thoſe parts. To compleat their misfortunes, Maclean, their guide, whom they diſpatched to procure a reception for them at ſir Alexander Macdonald's houſe, loſt his way; which obliged the lady and her ſuppoſed maid to paſs a very diſagreeable night or two amongſt the rocks. They had the good fortune, however, at laſt to meet with Maclean, who informed them that ſir Alexander Macdonald was with the duke of Cumberland, but that his lady had humanity enough to give them ſhelter. Upon this intelligence, he went to the lady's houſe; but it does not appear that ſhe thought him ſafe there all night. A party of the Macleods, who were well-affected to the government, hearing of ſome ſtrangers that had come to ſir Alexander Macdonald's houſe, came to ſearch it, and had a ſight of Charles in his female habit, but without ſuſpecting who he was. Upon this he went, the 1ſt of July, to Glam, and the 2d to a place called Nicholſon's rock. One Macdonald of Kingſborough, however, finding that the ſecret of his having been in woman's cloaths had taken air, equipped him with a ſervant man's habit, in which he travelled, on the 4th of July, from Nicholſon's rock to Ellagol in the iſle of Sky: from thence, being provided with a boat, he landed at Loch Nevis, where he lay for three nights in the fields; and concealed himſelf ſo well, that many thought he was dead.

In the mean while, the two French men of war which had brought men and money for the wanderer from France, beat off two of the king's ſhips, and continued for ſome time hovering upon the coaſt, in hopes of being able to carry from thence the young pretender. But all they could do was to carry off Perth and his brother; the former was ſo exhauſted by fatigue, that he died before he reached France, as the latter did ſoon after. They were attended by three or four ſcore of their officers and common people, who being afterwards increaſed by others, formed two regiments in the

Geo. II. 1746. French ſervice. Another part of the rebels went on board a ſhip which landed them in Denmark; the chief of them were lord Ogilvie, Fletcher of Benſchie, Hunter of Burntſide, David Fortheringham, governor of Dundee for the rebels; David Graham, merchant of Dundee; Alexander Graham, his ſon; Henry Patullo; —— Sandilands the younger, merchant in Bourdeaux; David Graham of Duntroon, ſtiled lord Dundee; Thomas Blair, merchant in Dundee.

But the young pretender had the misfortune of miſſing all thoſe opportunities of eſcaping. He was driven from Loch Nevis by the militia, and on the 10th of July he arrived at Borradale. He received great comfort from intelligence he had from his old adherent one captain Macleod, that he was ſure of a refuge from one Mac Innon. He accordingly arrived at Mac Innon's houſe, who adviſed him to make the beſt of his way to Lochabar. On the 15th of July a gentleman, called Glenalladale, came to him, by whom he was conducted, on the 17th, to Corrybenicabir; after that, on the 18th, he was obliged to go to the tops of the mountains of Scooring and Fruighven. He was now in the very heart of a large detachment of the king's forces, and ſo near them, that from the heath on which he covered himſelf night and day, he often heard them relieving their guards, and the ſoldiers talking to one another. He was, however, by one of his adherents, called in his journal Glenpean, conducted to the top of the mountain Mamnyncallum. It was about this time that ſome of the king's troops ſurprized a party of his followers in a hutt, where they made a vigorous reſiſtance; but being driven out, one of them detached himſelf in flight from the others, and ſome of them who had been made priſoners, aſſured the ſoldiers that he was the young pretender. Upon this they went in purſuit of him, and with ſome difficulty overtook him; they deſired him to ſurrender, and told him, they knew who he was. He ſeemed to acknowledge it, but refuſed quarter, and in the encounter was killed. This ſingular act of ſelf-devotion ſaved the young pretender. The perſon who was killed reſembled him in age, perſon, dreſs, and every circumſtance by which he had been deſcribed to the ſoldiers. In the mean while he himſelf was at Corrinongault, all day in ſight of ſmall camps, 27 of which were formed, each at half a mile's diſtance, from Loch Urin to the head of Loch Jell, paſſed ſeveral camps, and at laſt went between the centinels of one at the foot of the mountain next to Drymochoſey. On the 21ſt he was at Corriſcorridill, lying all day within cannon-ſhot of two camps, and the ſoldiers ſtill nearer.

On

On the 22d he moved northwards to a ſtrong paſs called Glenſhiel, where a detachment of Spaniards, who had come to ſupport the rebellion in the year 1718, had been forced to ſurrender themſelves priſoners. On the 23d he removed eaſtward, and reached a cave between Glemoriſton and Strathglaſs, where he was joined by ſix obſcure inhabitants of the country, whom he uſed to call his counſellors. They made his life as comfortable to him as poſſible, by means of tobacco, which he ſmoaked night and day; and they had the addreſs to purchaſe proviſions for him, even from the ſuttlers in the camps in the neighbourhood, without being diſcovered. Here, and in the neighbouring woods, he remained till the 7th of Auguſt, when, upon ſome intelligence that a ſmall party of his followers were in arms to receive him, he ſet out for Lochiel's country, and on the 8th was at Faſnacoil. He then ſtruck ſouthwards, and came to Auchnaſual on the 14th, and next day came to a wood at the foot of Locharking. He remained here with his council, till doctor Cameron (the ſame who afterwards ſuffered death at London) found him wandering about the woods in a moſt miſerable condition, his cloaths in tatters, and without ſhoes or ſtockings. He received, however, ſome comfort from Cameron, who gave him hopes of his eſcape, and that about 100 Highlanders were in arms to receive him. But here he was again very near being ſurprized and taken priſoner by a gentleman of the name of Grant; and he only ſaved himſelf by eſcaping to the top of a mountain called Moulontagart. After this he ſet out for Badenoch, where he met with his friends on the 30th at Millanuir, but ſo diſguiſed and altered, that they were upon the point of firing upon him and the ſmall party that was with him. But though, from the notion of his being killed, the purſuit after him, at this time, was greatly relaxed, yet the king's forces, knowing that many of the rebels were ſtill lurking in that country, he was ſo much harraſſed, that he was obliged to diſmiſs his attendants, appointing them a place of rendezvous. On the 2d of September he went to Viſchilra, two miles further into Benalder. On the 6th, he went to a hut in the face of the mountain Retternilichk, and remained there till he got intelligence of the arrival of ſhips upon the weſt coaſt. On the 13th he ſet out immediately for the ſhips, and came on the morning of the 14th to Carvoy, and before day-light on the 15th got through Glenroy. On the 19th, after various fatiguing marches, he arrived near Lochnanaugh in Moidart, where the ſhips who were to receive him lay. Some French

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See Vol. XIX. p. 259.

Geo. II. 1746. gentlemen having been on ſhore from the French ſhips, had enquired of the country people for ſome of the rebel chiefs; and the London Gazette mentions, that Barriſdale and his ſon were accordingly brought to them; that they deſired guides to doctor Cameron, and were brought to him accordingly; that in the mean time young Clanronald, Lochgary, Keppoch, Barriſdale and his ſon, Ardſhield, and four gentlemen from Apin, and ſeveral other chiefs, with ſixty private men, went on board. The pretender came on the 19th in a bad ſtate of health, dreſt in a ſhort coat of black frieze, a gray plaid trouſe and fellebeg over it, in company with Lochiel, &c. The ſhip ſailed on the 20th. They did not land any forces, or commit any hoſtilities. The name of the ſhip he ſet ſail in was called the Bellona of Nantz.

The young pretender eſcapes to France.

In their voyage to France they narrowly eſcaped being taken by ſome of the Engliſh ſhips of war; but by the help of a thick fog, he arrived ſafe at Roſcou, near Morlaix, in France. His appearance as to his habit, was beyond all deſcription deſpicable; but he was heard to declare, that he never had enjoyed a better ſtate of health than he did during the whole time of his abſconding. He was ſoon equipped, ſo as to appear at the court of France, where he ſeemed to be greatly careſſed; and he and his brother received a few trifling preſents from that monarch. But all thoſe exteriors were force and diſſimulation. The miniſtry, except cardinal Tencin, had all along been backward in ſupporting him; and the complaints of France, under the loſſes her trade had ſuffered by the war, had at laſt given her monarch a ſerious, though a ſecret, turn to peace. It was evident to all Europe, that all the advantages he had gained for twelve months before, had been owing to Charles; and his people were ſenſible of the ſame. Add to this, that the event, either peace or war, was yet uncertain; and it was poſſible, that Charles might ſtill be of farther uſe to France.

But all the careſſes of his moſt Chriſtian majeſty and his family, could not reconcile Charles either to his, or his miniſtry's, ſincerity. His brother (ſince made cardinal of York) had an intriguing turn, and had made ſome diſcoveries of falſe dealing on the part of D'Argençon and other French miniſters, which he communicated to Charles. The latter had the ſpirit to diſcover the whole to the French king, who affected ſome ſurprize, but nothing followed. The two brothers had appointments that were juſt ſufficient to maintain them with decency; and the French court found great advantages in providing for their followers in the army.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

Vernon ſtruck off the liſt of admirals—Oglethorpe tried and acquitted—Negotiations for peace at Liſbon and Breda—State of affairs on the continent—The vaſt maritime projects of the French—The French attack Dutch Brabant—Their declaration on that head—They take Sluys, Hulſt, and other places—The prince of Orange choſen ſtadtholder—Battle of Val—Bergen-op-Zoom beſieged and taken by the French—Affairs of Italy—Genoa beſieged and delivered—Great ſucceſſes of the admirals Anſon, Warren, and Hawke againſt the French by ſea—Captain Fox tried—Boſcawen's expedition to the Eaſt-Indies—Beſieges Pondicherry—Ruſſians hired by Great Britain—Affairs on the continent—Caſe of the Scotch juriſdictions—End of the ſeſſion of parliament—which is diſſolved—Vigour of the Dutch.

THE great merits of admiral Vernon, as a ſeaman, were univerſally acknowledged. But his over-bearing conduct was extreamly diſguſtful to his ſuperiors at the board of admiralty. He had pretended as admiral to ſome independent powers, for which that board had checked him; and he reſigned his command to admiral Martin, or, as he terms it, he was hunted out. However that may be, it is certain his reſentment got the better of all duty, and even decency, due from him to his ſuperiors. He not only inveighed with great bitterneſs againſt the meaſures of the government, but printed and publiſhed all the letters that had been ſent to him by the miniſtry or their friends, during the time he was in commiſſion; and ſome of them were ſuch, as in ſtrictneſs of honour, as well as in point of prudence, ought not to have ſeen the light. The lords of the admiralty were at ſome loſs how to proceed, between the regard owing to their own authority, and that owing to Vernon's ſervice. His reſentment, however, became ſo outrageous, that the ſecretary of the admiralty required of him, in their name, whether he was the author of thoſe letters? Vernon

Geo. II. 1746.

Admiral Vernon reſigns his command.

Letter from Vernon to the duke of B.

Geo. II. 1746. anſwered this demand with abuſive replies; and at laſt the lords of the admiralty were forced to ſend for him, and to inform him, that his majeſty had commanded them to ſtrike his name out of the liſt of the admirals.

and is ſtruck off the liſt of admirals.

Oglethorpe tried and acquitted.

His diſgrace was followed by that of a land-officer of equal popularity, major-general Oglethorpe. It was ſuſpected, that he had not made that quick diſpatch in purſuing the rebels in the north that he might have done; and it was reſolved, could it have been proved, to have puniſhed him capitally. He accordingly underwent a long and a ſtrict trial. But he proved, with an irreſiſtable force of evidence, that he had done his duty; and that the fatigues which the men and horſes, he commanded, had undergone in the purſuit, were ſuch as rendered it impoſſible for him to overtake the rebels. Upon this he was honourably acquitted by the court-martial, and his majeſty was pleaſed to approve of their ſentence.

Reduction of the horſe guards.

The extinction of the rebellion, the unanimity of all parties in parliament, and the moderation of the government by refuſing to have the Habeas Corpus act ſuſpended for no more than three months, left the miniſtry now at leiſure to turn their thoughts towards peace. The king of Denmark was lately dead, and his ſon, married to a princeſs of the royal family of England, had ſucceeded him; and the new king of Spain gave favourable indications of his diſpoſitions for peace. All theſe were circumſtances favourable to Great Britain; and his Britannic majeſty, in order to evidence his inclination to ſave as much money as poſſible to the public, conſented to the reduction of three regiments of horſe into dragoons, and propoſed the diſbanding of the third and fourth troops of his own life guards. Mr. Fox, ſecretary at war, propoſed theſe meaſures in a committee of the houſe of commons; and ſhewed, that upon the whole, about 70,000 l. a year would be thereby ſaved to the public, and that a more numerous body of troops might be furniſhed. He likewiſe acquainted the houſe, that the whole was his majeſty's own act, and it muſt appear to be ſuch, as it could not be imagined that any miniſter would propoſe the diſbanding ſo large a part of the guards, eſtabliſhed ſo long for the grandeur and ſecurity of the royal family, and then become an appendage to the ſplendour of the court. This propoſition was received by the houſe of commons with very warm ſentiments of gratitude, and was followed with an addreſs of thanks to his majeſty; though ſome, at that very time, foreſaw what afterwards happened, that the enemies of Great Britain would conſtrue ſuch a piece of oeconomy, as the effect of the inability

bility of the Britiſh nation to continue the war. But this ſuppoſition ſoon vaniſhed, when they ſaw the commons of England, who were chiefly to be affected by the expence, voluntarily, and almoſt unanimouſly, vote a larger ſum than ever was known to be granted in one year towards continuing the war with greater effect and vigour than ever. Geo. II. 1746.

This ſpirit in the parliament of England, was owing to the pride and arrogance of the French court. The Engliſh miniſtry had conceived a ſcheme to detach the new king of Spain from the intereſt of France, or rather to convince him, that it was the intereſt of Spain to make peace with Great Britain. The marquis of Tabernega, who had been once a favourite with that king, or had pretended to be ſo, and who had found refuge in England when he could not reſide in Spain, was thought a proper perſon to manage this negotiation with his Catholic majeſty. But from the courſe of the proceeding, it did not appear that the marquis retained the ſmalleſt degree of influence with that prince, or that he was ever permitted to return to his preſence. The negotiation, however went ſo far on, that the king of Portugal, as being the moſt proper power in Europe for a mediator, undertook that office, and Mr. Keene was ſent to Liſbon on the part of Great Britain; but all this promiſing ſcheme came to nothing. The queen mother of Spain, aſſiſted by the archbiſhop of Rennes, and the French ambaſſador at the court of Madrid, prevailed with his Catholic majeſty not to admit of any negotiation without the participation of the court of France. The French did not object to the mediation, but to the admitting the deputies from the Dutch to the conferences; becauſe, they ſaid, that republic could not be conſidered as a neutral power; and they even objected to the admiſſion of miniſters from the courts of Vienna or Turin to the conferences. Upon theſe unreaſonable objections, though the king of Spain himſelf was inclined to remove them, the conferences broke up. Negotiations for peace between Spain and Britain.

Thoſe at Breda were not more ſucceſsful. For though the court of France, to preſerve ſome maſk of moderation, agreed to the opening a congreſs there, yet it ſoon appeared, that it was with no real deſign of procuring a peace. The earl of Sandwich was the Britiſh plenipotentiary, the marquis de Puiſieux was plenipotentiary for France, count Waſſenaer, aſſiſted by count de Gilles, was there on the part of the States General, and count de Harrach was plenipotentiary for the court of Vienna. The firſt object which the court of England had in this negotiation, was a ceſſation of arms. Conferences at Breda.

Geo. II. 1746. arms. But the French miniſter objected to that, as his monarch was then in a career of ſucceſs; nor would he even admit of the new titles of the court of Vienna, unleſs his terms were complied with. Thoſe terms were no leſs, than that the empreſs queen ſhould defray the expences of the war, which, they ſaid, had been occaſioned by her obſtinacy; and that ſatisfaction ſhould be given to the allies of France by the court of Vienna. The French plenipotentiary declared further, that he had even no authority from his maſter to admit any mention of the houſe of Stewart, as having no right to the crown of Great Britain, into the preliminaries; and that if that was inſiſted upon, there was an end of the negotiation. The inſolence of thoſe demands, proved very plainly, that the true intention of the French cabinet, was to try the fate of another campaign, in which they were in hopes of either prevailing with the Dutch to withdraw their troops from their allies, or of making themſelves maſters of their whole country. Upon this the conferences broke up.

It was the arrogance the French ſhewed in this negotiation, that convinced the States General of the neceſſity of returning to their antient plan of confederacy with the courts of London and Vienna; and the Britiſh parliament found that nothing was to be obtained from France, till her commercial affairs were reduced to ſuch a ſtate, as might induce her to hear reaſon. The earl of Sandwich, therefore, upon the meeting of the parliament, was appointed his majeſty's miniſter plenipotentiary to their High Mightineſſes, to bring them to a ſenſe of their true intereſt; and his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland, to give ſpirit to his negotiation, went over to Holland, to concert meaſures for the operations of the next campaign. At the ſame time the following general officers were appointed to command. His royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland, captain general; ſir John Ligonier, general of horſe; lieutenant general Henry Hawley, lieutenant general William Ann earl of Albemarle, major general Fuller, Huſke, Howard, Bland, earl of Crawford, brigadier general Bligh, Price, Mordaunt, Haughton, and Douglas. Thoſe preparations on the ſide of Great Britain, had a great effect. The States General entered into a convention, by which they engaged themſelves to furniſh 40,000 men, as Great Britain did the ſame number, towards the common cauſe; while the empreſs queen was to furniſh 60,000 men, excluſive of garriſons; beſides 10,000 in Luxemberg, and to effect the junction of 60,000 Auſtrians and

The earl of Sandwich ſent to Holland.

Quotas of the confederate army adjuſted.

30,000

30,000 Piedmonteſe to attack France; and laſtly, to employ 15,000 men to keep the king of Sicily in awe. Geo. II. 1746.

But the great point ſtill remained to be effected, and that was, to prevail upon the Dutch to declare war againſt France. The French had ſtript the empreſs queen of her barrier in the Netherlands, which they again and again had inſiſted upon to be their barrier; and under pretext of the infraction of the capitulations of Tournay and other towns, by ſending their garriſons over to Great Britain, they had not only deprived them of all the benefit of the commercial treaty of 1739, but had refuſed them the benefit of the cartel, by leaving them at liberty to exchange their priſoners. Mr. Van Haren endeavoured to rouſe his countrymen, with an eloquence reſembling that of Demoſthenes, into an effectual ſpirit againſt France; and to ſhew them, that notwithſtanding all their menaces and armies, ſhe was exhauſted of men by the war at land, and of money by her loſſes at ſea; and that if Holland would but declare war, and act vigorouſly, and ſupport that declaration, France muſt be reduced to beg for the peace ſhe had rejected. He then gave his reaſons for what he had advanced, and pointed out the methods by which it was eaſy for them to raiſe both men and money.

Dauphin married to a princeſs of Saxony.

State of affairs on the continent.

The general ſtate of affairs upon the continent this year, received a conſiderable alteration by the marriage of a princeſs of Saxony with the dauphin of France, whoſe wife was dead. It was therefore to be preſumed, that Great Britain and the empreſs queen had loſt an ally, and that his Pruſſian majeſty would have no further regard to the treaty of Warſaw. On the other hand, the empreſs of Ruſſia expreſſed herſelf well diſpoſed towards the common cauſe, and was actually treating with Great Britain and the States General for 30 000 men, which ſhe was to ſend into Germany or the Netherlands. The princes of the empire, the king of Pruſſia in particular, declared for a neutrality; ſo that the houſe of Auſtria had nothing to fear in Germany: and though France had been very aſſiduous at the Ottoman port, yet ſhe could not prevent the renewing the treaty of Belgrade with the empreſs queen, and other treaties with the court of Ruſſia. Several of the members of the Imperial diet were averſe to receiving the French ambaſſador, monſieur de la Noue, as a public miniſter there; becauſe his maſter refuſed to acknowledge the head of the empire in that capacity, and the elector of Mentz had rejected a memorial from the court of France, which was preſented for regiſtration, tending to vindicate the conduct of the French in the Low Countries. As

to

Geo. II. 1746. to the condition of the empreſs queen, ſhe was, indeed, deſtitute of money, but her hereditary countries ſtill abounded with men; and a great party in the councils of Great Britain ſeconded the inſtances of her miniſter to have her ſubſidies early paid, that ſhe might the more early bring her troops into the field. This was partly complied with: but the late ſcandalous deficiencies of her contingencies, had rendered ſome of the Britiſh miniſtry ſo cautious, that ſhe was unable to bring the whole into the field ſo early as the common cauſe required. Being thoroughly exaſperated againſt the Genoeſe, ſhe made great diſpoſitions for reducing them effectually, and puniſhing them ſeverely.

The French, on the other hand, beſides the defection of the elector of Saxony in the common cauſe, found means to prevail upon the courts of Sweden and Denmark, to receive ſubſidies; and they thought themſelves in no danger from the houſe of Auſtria, becauſe they thought it would be ſtill the intereſt of the king of Pruſſia to take care that it never ſhould be formidable. They likewiſe found great relief from the ſpirited conduct of the Genoeſe, who had thrown off the Auſtrian yoke, and prepared to ſupport them againſt the empreſs queen, as being their cheapeſt and moſt effectual way of carrying on the war in Italy. But the diſcontents of their own people, notwithſtanding all the triumphs, pomp, and ſhew of power at court, every day encreaſed; and Maurepas, the ſecretary of the marine, with ſome other miniſters, endeavoured to make their maſter ſenſible, that he ought to change the maxims of his government, and almoſt upon any terms to conclude a peace, rather than continue a war ſo ruinous to the real intereſt of France.

Vaſt maritime project of the French.

It was with this view that Maurepas produced his famous ſcheme for rendering France a maritime power, ſuperior to the Engliſh and Dutch in conjunction. For this purpoſe he propoſed, upon the re-eſtabliſhment of a peace, to withdraw from the land ſervice 20,000,000 of livres every year, and to employ it in building ſhips of war; by which, if his regulations were obſerved, he pretended to demonſtrate, that by the year 1762, France would be miſtreſs of a marine more formidable than all the world beſides. The late regulations which Maurepas had introduced with regard to convoys, had been ſo ſucceſsful, that his ſcheme met with approbation in the council of France; and then he opened the remaining part of it, which conſiſted in a plan of ſettlements upon the continent of America, to be purſued in the mean while, that when the French marine ſhould arrive in its vi-

gour,

gour, muſt intirely diſpoſſeſs the Engliſh of all their poſſeſ- Geo II.
ſions in America, in both the Indies, and leave even Spain 1746-7.
herſelf to the mercy of the French. Maurepas agreed at the
ſame time, that the meaſures concerted by his moſt Chriſtian majeſty for carrying on the enſuing campaign with remarkable vigour, were wiſe, becauſe it might forward the great work of peace. Other arguments were brought to ſtrengthen this plan; the king of Pruſſia, the great ally of the French and the empire, was now neutral. They had no longer the advantage of the imperial name, authority, and troops on their ſide. The forces of the elector Palatine, and the landgrave of Heſſe, no longer acted on the ſame ſide with France, and the king of Naples had been obliged to a neutrality.

Notwithſtanding all thoſe and many more diſcouragements, his moſt Chriſtian majeſty prepared to make greater efforts in the field than ever, and to open the campaign in the Netherlands at the head of 150,000 men, while 60,000 men were appointed to act in Provence. To give the greater firmneſs to this immenſe force, he renewed, in the perſon of marſhal Saxe, the title of marſhal de camp general, which had been poſſeſſed by the great Turenne, and which gave him a right to command not only the marſhals of France, but the princes of the blood. They take the field.

The duke of Cumberland had made moſt excellent diſpoſitions for opening the approaching campaign more early than had been uſual of late years; even in February his troops were put in motion, and drawn out of their cantonments in Limberg and Luxemberg, and the countries along the lower Meuſe, and by the end of March they took the field in Dutch Brabant. The duke of Cumberland had under him 8000 Engliſh, 18,000 Hanoverians, with 6000 Heſſians, and fixed his head quarters at Tilberg, eleven miles ſouth-eaſt of Breda. The Dutch were commanded by prince Waldeck, and lay at Breda, the capital of Dutch Brabant. The Auſtrians, with 4000 Bavarians, were more tardy, through the cauſes that have been already mentioned, but aſſembled under the marſhal Bathiani, in the neighbourhood of Venlo, on the eaſt ſide of the Meuſe. The marſhal Saxe, all this while, kept his troops in their cantonments, between Bruges, Antwerp, and Bruſſels, furniſhed with plenty of every thing, and under no neceſſity of fatiguing them, while the confederates, through the inexcuſable negligence of the Dutch and Auſtrians, were ill provided even of neceſſary ſubſiſtance, and were obliged to be inactive. At dore the allies.

This

Geo. II. 1746-7.

This inactivity loſt to the allies all the advantages they had promiſed to themſelves from their early taking the field; while marſhal Saxe, by reſerving his troops, had leiſure to form a plan of operations, that, if purſued, might do credit to his new dignity. This was no leſs than to carry the arms of France into the vitals of the United Provinces, by inſtantly attacking Dutch Brabant. This plan of operations being ſent to Verſailles for the French king's approbation, met with a warm oppoſition from count Maurepas and that part of the French miniſtry who had adopted his ſcheme of peace and commerce. They attempted to ſhew, that a direct attack upon the Dutch territories, muſt be attended with a revolution in their republic, and perhaps an alteration in the ſyſtem of Europe, which would prove by no means in favour of France. Cardinal Tencin, and the violent party, being afraid, that peace might in a manner be forced upon the confederates, under the diſadvantages of their ſituation, ſtrongly ſupported Saxe's ſcheme, though the other party made it plainly appear, that a direct attack upon the Dutch, muſt be conſidered as a declaration of war, and attended with the moſt diſagreeable conſequences to the French commerce, which by the good regulations introduced into their marine, and a number of large ſhips of war then upon the ſtocks, was juſt beginning again to raiſe its head. Tencin and his party, on the other hand, thought nothing was to be expected from the Dutch but by becoming their maſters, and that nothing was to be feared from their enmity, and the French king being prevailed upon to be of the ſame opinion, orders were inſtantly ſent to Saxe to begin the execution of his plan.

The French attack Dutch Brabant.

At the ſame time, a declaration was drawn up by the French court, to juſtify the invaſion of Dutch Brabant, and communicated to the States General of the United Provinces by the abbe de la Ville, the French miniſter at the Hague, in a letter full of inſidious or unmeaning proteſtations of regard and friendſhip. This declaration begun with recapitulating the ſeveral advances and propoſitions the French king had made to the States General in the years 1742 and 1745, and which, in fact, were ſo frivolous and deluſive, that they ſcarcely deſerve mentioning. His moſt Chriſtian majeſty then complained of the States General having afforded to his enemies an aſylum in their dominions, and thereby giving them an opportunity of diſturbing the conqueſts he had made upon the queen of Hungary. "Compelled, continues the memorial, only by theſe circumſtances, and the conduct of the

Contents of their declaration on that head.

United

United Provinces, his majeſty has permitted the general of his forces to take indifferently all the meaſures which his military ſkill and experience ſhall ſuggeſt, to prevent the enemy's army from moleſting the lawful poſſeſſion of his conqueſts, and to ſecure the repoſe of his new ſubjects." The king had been juſtified if he had, at the beginning of the laſt campaign, entered with his whole army on the territory of the States General, becauſe they had afforded a retreat to the troops at enmity with France. But his majeſty believing the ſincerity of the overtures made to him to eſtabliſh peace, ſuſpected the execution of an enterprize, which not only the laws of war, but the bad condition of the allied army would equally have warranted." Geo. II. 1746-7.

The memorial then proceeds to complain, that the republic, in the opinion of all Europe, intended, under the veil of negotiation, to procure the neceſſary delays for warding off its approaching danger, and to prepare ſtill greater efforts for continuing the war. The Dutch are then charged with having thrown in difficulties at the opening of the conferences at Breda, contrary to their engagements to the French king, to embarraſs the negotiations for peace. They are next charged with ſuffering their troops, in the year 1744, to enter into the territories of France in the plains of Liſle, without, continues the memorial, "the States General pretending, by this invaſion, to make direct war on the king; his majeſty declares, that in this ſtep of entering the territory of the republic, (to which he is forced) his deſign is not to come to a rupture, but only to ſtop or prevent the dangerous effects of the protection which they give to the troops of the queen of Hungary and the king of England. It will not be reaſonable to expect that the king ſhould, to his own prejudice, ſhew a ſcrupulous forbearance in regard to the pretended neutrality of powers acting as auxiliaries to his enemies, while they themſelves exerciſe the greateſt oppreſſion againſt his majeſty's allies, even ſuch as never once exceeded the bounds of the ſtricteſt neutrality. Nevertheleſs the king, to demonſtrate as much as poſſible what he owes to himſelf, together with thoſe benevolent ſentiments which he ſtill entertains for the States General, has expreſsly enjoined the commandant of his army to take care that the French troops, entering on the territories of the United Provinces, ſhall obſerve the ſtricteſt diſcipline, and regulate their operations only from neceſſity. His majeſty, far from giving any diſturbance to the religion, the government, or to the commerce of the republic, is, on the contrary,

Geo. II. 1747. trary, diſpoſed to grant all protection to the ſubjects of the States General, his majeſty being perſuaded that their conduct will be anſwerable to his ſo favourable intentions. Laſtly, to give a more convincing teſtimony of the ſincerity of his majeſty's deſign, which is only directed to fruſtrate the evil diſpoſition of his enemies, and to overcome their inflexibility to all propoſals for an accommodation, his majeſty declares, that he will conſider the places and countries he ſhall be obliged to take poſſeſſion of for his own ſecurity, no other than as a pledge, which he promiſes to reſtore, as ſoon as the United Provinces ſhall give convincing proofs that they will no longer aſſiſt the enemies of his crown, which is one of the principal cauſes of the continuance of the war."

"The king deſires only the eſtabliſhment of the public tranquillity upon juſt and ſolid foundations; and the intereſt which his majeſty takes in the ſafety and happineſs of the States General, cauſes him to behold with regret how they perſiſt in ſacrificing to certain foreign conſiderations and unjuſt prejudices, their treaſures, their troops, their poſſeſſions, their tranquillity, and, perhaps, the form of their government."

Obſervations on the ſame.

Such is the ſubſtance of this famous memorial, which, when made public, filled Europe with amazement, terror, and indignation. But the true meaning of its publication was contained in the laſt ſentence. It was now evident that the ſpirit of the Dutch people muſt ſoon prevail over the corruption of their government, and that the prince of Orange, ſon-in-law to the king of Great Britain, would be choſen ſtadtholder of Holland, and of the other United Provinces. This was a ſtep which, of all others, the French dreaded the moſt; and the true intention of the memorial was to amuſe the common people of Holland, and, if poſſible, divert them from that reſolution, ſince no court in Europe could be ſuppoſed weak enough to be impoſed upon by any thing contained in it.

The French court, to give a further explanation of its intentions, on the very day the memorial was preſented, ordered marſhal Saxe to begin his operations. He entruſted the execution of them to his friend and relation count Lowendahl, who with the marquis de Contades, had marched from Ghent, and approaching the weſtern extremity of Dutch Brabant with 27,000 men, had inveſted Sluys, which ſurrendered on the 19th of April, and its garriſon, which conſiſted of but 800 men, were made priſoners of war. Sas Van Ghent, after making a better defence, was obliged to ſur-

They take Sluys and other places.

render upon the ſame terms, as were ſeveral other places of leſs importance. The French then ſat down before Hulſt, to the defence of which a detachment of three Engliſh battalions had been ſent under general Fuller. Part of thoſe battalliſons were placed in the fort of Sandburg, which covered Hulſt, and for ſome time made a vigorous defence, and even ſallied out with ſucceſs upon the enemy. The royal Scotch regiment diſtinguiſhed themſelves on this occaſion. Their major, ſir Charles Erſkine, was killed, lieutenant colonel Abercrombie was wounded, and many of the ſubalterns and common men were cut to pieces. At laſt, they were obliged to retreat, under lord John Murray, in the abſence of general Fuller, to Welſthoorden. As to Hulſt itſelf it might have made a good defence, and La Rocque, the Dutch governor of it, being in the intereſt of the French part of the government, amuſed the Engliſh generals with pompous accounts of the ſtrength of the place, and gave aſſurances of its being able to hold out for ſome time. His royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland exerted himſelf with extraordinary vigour, in marching to relieve it; but the place was infamouſly given up the very day the Engliſh troops came before it, without their having any other notice of a ſurrender, than a general diſcharge of the artillery from the fortifications, by which they loſt a conſiderable number of men, and the perſon of his royal highneſs, who was making all the proper diſpoſitions for relieving the place, had it held out, was put in imminent danger. While the Dutch were receiving all thoſe repeated wounds, marſhal Saxe was, with a body of 120,000 men, covering Antwerp and the French conqueſts in the Low Countries, and obſerving the motion of the main body of the confederates, who, by their poſition, were obliged to cover Breda and Boiſleduc, and though lately reinforced by 7000 men from England, but found it impoſſible to do any thing againſt Saxe. But it is now time to attend the great revolution which thoſe ſucceſſes of the French produced in the government of Holland.

Geo. II. 1747. and Hulſt.

The memorial of the abbé de la Ville had not been anſwered by the States General, becauſe, as they afterwards rightly obſerved, the contents and tendency of it left them no other way of anſwering it but by defending themſelves. Even the common people were ſenſible of its inſolence, and that it meant to deprive them of the moſt eſſential rights of a ſovereign power, that of fulfilling their moſt ſolemn engagements with their natural and antient allies, in oppoſition to a peremptory demand ſupported only by ſuperior force.

Artifice of Lowendahl.

Geo. II. 1747. Count Lowendahl, upon his firſt irruption into Dutch Brabant, had remonſtrances laid before him by two officers from Sluys, concerning his attacking the territories of the republic. He received the officers politely, and aſſured them, that the invaſion was ſecretly connived at by the Dutch government itſelf; and that they muſt not be ſurprized if the French met with very little reſiſtance in their progreſs. The method in which the Dutch defended their towns, gave but too much colour for believing he ſpoke truth. But the friends of the republic, who were for chooſing a ſtadtholder, made a moſt excellent uſe of his declaration; for they printed and diſperſed the affidavits of the two officers to whom it was made, major Henry Pallardy, of the regiment de Rheede, and major Arthur Forbes of the Scotch regiment in the Dutch ſervice. The publication of thoſe affidavits had a wonderful effect upon the body of the people, who now conſidered their country and themſelves as being in a worſe ſituation than they were when invaded by Lewis XIV. in the year 1672; and they now openly exclaimed, that as they were betrayed by the members of their government, it was high time to take it out of their hands. It next naturally occurred to them, that they had now no other recourſe than what they had then, and that was to a ſtadtholder, and that their ſtadtholder ſhould be the head of the houſe of Orange.

promotes the election of a ſtadtholder.

The prince of Orange choſen to that dignity.

The name of this prince was William Henry Frizo, the ſon of John William Frizo, prince of Naſſau Diets, who had been left by William III. of England, ſucceſſor to his hereditary poſſeſſions of the houſe of Orange. This prince, as has been already related, was married to the princeſs Anne, eldeſt daughter to his Britannic majeſty, but was more illuſtrious for his virtues and his family, than for his perſon or his poſſeſſions. He was hereditary ſtadtholder of Frieſeland, and he had been likewiſe elected ſtadtholder of the provinces of Groningen and Guelderland; but the reſt of the United Provinces had ſhewn very little regard to his perſon, and even his alliance to the royal houſe of Great Britain, had been very far from inducing them to increaſe his dignity: for he had been refuſed that common rank in their armies, which they had made no ſcruple of beſtowing upon foreigners. Upon the great ſucceſſes of the French againſt the Dutch, he had wrote a letter to the province of Zealand, informing them, that the immediate danger that province was in, had induced him to offer his ſervices to the ſtates for its defence; and that he was, at their firſt requeſt, letter or meſſage, ready to

to repair to ſuch places as they ſhould think fit, in order to contribute, at his own charges and expence, without any to the province, whatever lay in his power for their common defence. Geo. II. 1747.

Upon the receipt of this letter, the ſtates of Zealand unanimouſly nominated him ſtadtholder, captain general, and admiral of that province; and in a letter he returned them, he accepted of thoſe dignities with that zeal for the public welfare, which was becoming his love for his country, and the blood from whence he deſcended. He then acquainted them, that, as ſoon as their deputies ſhould arrive, he would conſult them about the manner of haſtening his voyage to Zealand, to deliberate with their noble mightineſſes upon what they ſhould think moſt proper for the welfare of the republic in general, and the province of Zealand in particular.

The election of the prince of Orange to be ſtadtholder of Zealand, had a prodigious effect over all the reſt of the United Provinces, where there was ſcarcely a town or a village where he had not a party that propoſed him for their ſtadtholder; and his intereſt met with little oppoſition. Upon his voyage to Middleburg, the capital of Zealand, he diſcovered ſo great a capacity for government in conſulting with the ſtates of that province, (which, after the taking of Hulſt by the French, was in moſt immediate danger) that the city of Rotterdam firſt, and afterwards the whole province of Holland, choſe him in like manner for their ſtadtholder; and at laſt he was appointed in the aſſembly of the States, ſtadtholder, captain general, and admiral in chief of all the United Provinces. Upon this his highneſs repaired to the Hague, where he was conducted, on the 15th of May, into the aſſembly of the ſtates, by the counts Randwick and Bentinck, the latter of whom made a ſpeech upon that occaſion, in which were the following expreſſions, which ſufficiently characterized the degenerated ſtate of the republic before that promotion. "The re-eſtabliſhment of the antient form of government, will re-eſtabliſh concord in the republic, cauſe deliberations to be brought ſooner to maturity, give activity to their reſult, and occaſion a wiſe diſtribution of rewards and puniſhments, without which no government can ſubſiſt. By ſuch means, and the conduct of the princes of Orange, the republic had been raiſed to this high pitch of felicity and grandeur, from the low and contemptible ebb to which it was reduced, even to have neither force nor direction, and to be the deriſion of its enemies, and a uſeleſs burthen to its friends. We doubt not but the prince we have

The prince of Orange choſen ſtadtholder of the United Provinces.

Geo II. 1747. the honour to preſent to you, will tread in the ſteps of his glorious anceſtors and heartily concur with us in delivering the republic, now invaded, and preſerve us from the yoke of a treacherous and deceitful neighbour, who makes a jeſt of good faith, honour, and the moſt ſolemn treaties."

His ſpeech on that occaſion.

The prince himſelf then, in a very handſome ſpeech, gently reproached his enemies for poſtponing him in the army, by ſaying, that he was doubtful whether he poſſeſſed that degree of military knowledge which was requiſite to his high rank; but he promiſed to redouble his diligence in ſtudying it. "When I reflect, continued he, on what that truſt demands of me, I conſider alſo what the preſent ſituation of the public requires, at a time when it is attacked by a powerful enemy abounding in reſources, while the ſtrength of the ſtate is in ſome meaſure enervated by the decline of its commerce, by a neglect of diſcipline amongſt its troops, and from another cauſe not leſs important, namely, a great remiſſneſs in the practice of religious worſhip." He then proceeded, and concluded his ſpeech in a ſtrain ſo pathetic and religious, that he raiſed in the whole aſſembly a great idea of his wiſdom, piety, and eloquence, and which his ſubſequent conduct confirmed.

Vigorous reſolutions of the States General.

The firſt ſenſible effect which this alteration in the Dutch government produced, was a reſolution which the ſtates of Zealand came to, May 12, "that all their governors and commanders, by ſea and land, of towns, forts, batteries, ſhips, and all other perſons whatſoever their ſubjects, ſhould attack, ſeize, and bring in all ſhips, as well in harbour as out of the ſame, coming from the French enemies harbours or coaſts, and not being able to do that, to ſink or deſtroy them in the beſt manner it ſhall be poſſible for them, and not to ſuffer them, under pretence of any contrary orders whatſoever, to navigate unmoleſted."

A copy of this order was ſent not only to the officers who were ſubjects to the ſtates of Zealand, but to Mr. Mitchel, the Engliſh commodore, deſiring him to ſend the like orders to the officers of the ſhips under his command, as well in, as out, of harbour, in order to do jointly to the enemy all the miſchief and injury in their power. This, in effect, was declaring war by the province of Zealand againſt the French; but it was the wiſeſt meaſure the ſtates of that province could have taken. For Lowendahl, having made himſelf maſter of Hulſt, ſeized upon Axel and Terneuſe. By this they were enabled to make preparations for a deſcent upon Zealand, as their conqueſts now reached to the mouth of the Scheld,

and

and the narrow ſeas of Zealand. For this purpoſe, they had conſtructed a number of flat-bottom'd boats, for making a deſcent upon the iſlands of Zealand. But the ſquadron of Britiſh men of war, ſtationed at the Schin, rendering this attempt impracticable, marſhal Saxe thought proper to ſtrengthen his main army, by recalling the forces under Lowendahl and count Clermont. Geo. II. 1747.

Matters in Holland began now to wear an aſpect very different from what they did ſome time before. The States General gave orders, that no proviſions or warlike ſtores ſhould be exported out of their dominions, but for the uſe of the allied army, or their own colonies. They ſet about equipping a fleet; they ordered their militia, both in town and country, to carry arms, and to be exerciſed. They fitted out privateers againſt the French, whom they treated in all reſpects like their common enemies, and gave premiums for taking their ſhips and men. They prohibited all their ſubjects from treating with the French about contributions, waggons, pioneers, and other warlike ſervices. They ſent to ſeveral courts of Germany, according to Mr. Van Haren's advice, to treat for the hire of 30,000 additional troops to their army; and a council of war was eſtabliſhed, for enquiring into and puniſhing all ſuch of their commanders and governors, and other officers, as had behaved in a cowardly manner ſince the commencement of the war.

Operations of the ally'd army.

The prince of Orange was indefatigable in promoting all thoſe meaſures; but notwithſtanding all the ſeeming unanimity with which he was raiſed to the ſtadtholderſhip, he had great difficulties to encounter. He earneſtly intreated, in the mean time, the duke of Cumberland to cover Maeſtricht and Bergen-op-Zoom from the attempts of the enemy. At firſt, the allies thought of attacking Antwerp; but they found that attempt impracticable, by the diſpoſitions that Saxe had made, and the ſuperiority of his army to theirs, notwithſtanding the detachments under Lowendahl and Clermont. The confederates, therefore, were obliged to retire between the two Nethes, as they could not otherwiſe cover Maeſtricht and Bergen-op-Zoom. On the 22d of May the French king arrived at Bruſſels, and marſhal Saxe's army leaving their cantonments, as having now nothing to apprehend from Antwerp, marched towards Louvain, extending themſelves towards the neighbourhood of Biſen, in the biſhopric of Liege, and within ſix miles of Maeſtricht, which place they ſeemed determined to attack, count Clermont having taken poſt at Tongres. Upon this, the confederates moved from behind

Geo. II. 1747. the Demer, upon which Bilſen lies; and after marching all night, they encamped at Zonork. On the 19th they arrived at Haffelt, and marched in three columns towards Lonaken; from thence they marched to the village of Rempſt, from whence they diſpoſted ſome of the French advanced guards.

The battle of Val. This march was intended for taking poſſeſſion of a ſtrong camp that lay between Bilſen and Tongres; but, before they could reach it, the French were ſeen marching from Tongres in two large columns, to take poſſeſſion of Herdeeren, which lay almoſt half way between Tongres and Maeſtricht, with the river Jaar on the right. The confederates, at this time, lay with their right towards Bilſen, and their left towards Millen, which was at the bottom of the height of Herdeeren, and the villages between that and Maeſtricht. On the 1ſt N. S. of July, his royal highneſs, who was on horſeback by break of day, ſeeing the French on their march, ordered the prince of Wolfenbuttel to occupy the villages of Grote and Klein Spawe, with the infantry of the corps de reſerve, and to form his cavalry on the plain between thoſe villages and the grand commanderie. This was done with a view of ſecuring the poſt at Bilſen, where the right wing of the confederates, compoſed of the Auſtrians, ſtill lay. In the mean while, his royal highneſs, who was extremely deſirous of getting poſſeſſion of Herdeeren, ſent word to ſir John Ligonier to advance with the Britiſh cavalry and infantry, which formed the left of the confederate army, with all poſſible expedition. But this could not be done, before the French got poſſeſſion of the heights of Herdeeren. Upon this, it was reſolved, that the left of the confederate army ſhould fall back towards Wirle; and thus it lay with the right ſtill at Bilſen, and the left at Wirle, with the village Val in their front; while the French, by being in poſſeſſion of Herdeeren and Millen, prepared to pour down from the heights, and, if poſſible, by flanking the left of the allies, to get between them and Maeſtricht. This made it neceſſary, during the night of the 1ſt of July, to order the left of the confederates to advance to the village of Val, which, by order of his royal highneſs, was taken poſſeſſion of by the Britiſh regiments of Craufurd, Pulteny, DeJean, and Freudeman's Hanoverians, with artillery. The front of the foot guards, at the ſame time, made a flank from the right of the Heſſian grenadiers, towards the Bavarians of the center, fronting the village of Ulitinghen, which the confederates burnt, in order to prevent the enemy's making uſe of it to annoy them. At the ſame time his royal highneſs had the precaution to plant ſeveral

veral batteries of Engliſh cannon in the front, ſo as to rake the enemy as they came down from the heights of Herdeeren. The enemy's cavalry continued ſtill to make a great ſhew in three lines upon thoſe heights, but without attacking the confederates, which made the latter apprehenſive that they intended to conceal the motions of their infantry, who ſoon after appeared coming down the plain, through a valley between the hills which leads from Rempſt, forming a vaſt column of nine or ten battallions in front, and as many deep, of their beſt corps, bearing directly on the village of Val. Geo II. 1747.

Marſhal Bathiani, with the Auſtrians, lay ſtill at the right at Bilſen; the Dutch occupied the center, and the Heſſians lay upon the right of the Engliſh. On the approach of the French to attack Val, the Engliſh batteries continued firing the whole time the enemy was advancing, as well upon their foot, as the ſquadrons of horſe that ſupported the right and left flanks of their columns. At ten o'clock the cannonading of the enemy's ſide began againſt the village with the field-pieces that they brought with their infantry (the ſecond ſhot of which killed his royal highneſs's German aid-de-camp, the baron Ziggeſaer) which was immediately followed by the attack of the firſt brigades. Theſe were ſoon diſperſed with prodigious loſs, as were the ſecond, third, and fourth diviſions. Overpowered by this conſtant ſupply of freſh troops, the regiments in Val were obliged to give way; but being ſuſtained by the regiments of Wolfe, Charles Howard, Conway, and Hauſs; the brigades of Navarre, la marque, Iriſh, Monaco, Royal des Vaiſſeaux, and ſeveral others, were intirely ruined. The enemy ſtill kept pouring on freſh lines of foot, ſo that the village was loſt and regained on both ſides ſeveral times. The battallions of the Britiſh and Hanoverian infantry, entered the village four or five different times each, though the French but once, as they never could be rallied, and were always ſupplied with freſh brigades. Had marſhal Bathiani, at this time, ſupported the Engliſh according to the orders of his royal highneſs, ſpeedily and effectually, the victory muſt have fallen compleatly to the confederates. But it is certain, that the behaviour of the Auſtrians that day, as well as of the Dutch, was ſhameful; and that the whole force of the French army fell upon the Engliſh, Hanoverians, and Heſſians, upon the left wing. Count Daun, indeed, with ſome ſquadrons of horſe, advanced time enough to do ſome ſervice in the village: but notwithſtanding ſome buſtle was made upon the right wing, his royal highneſs received no other ſupport from Bathiani, than driv- London Gazette.

Geo. II. 1747. ing the enemy out of the village of Elcht, in the front of the hill of Herdeeren, that was poſſeſſed by part of the enemy's left wing. But, though, by this advantage, the Auſtrians had it in their power to have attacked the enemy in flank, and thereby to have prevented the whole weight of the French from falling upon the village of Val, yet the Auſtrians made no further effort, which gave the French an opportunity of reinforcing their attack upon Val with the infantry of their reſerve from Rempſt, while part of their cavalry fell in with their infantry to ſupport them. This rendered the French too powerful for the front line of the Britiſh and Hanoverians upon the left, which the duke, upon the promiſing ſtate of the battle at twelve o'clock, had ordered to advance againſt the enemy, ſo that it was diſordered, and obliged to fall back upon the left of the center, where the Dutch troops were poſted. But theſe, inſtead of marching up to ſupport the left wing of the allies, fell back towards the right of their own army, with ſo much confuſion, that they overthrew five battallions which were advancing, but very ſlowly, from the right. The enemy made their advantage of the cowardice of the Dutch and the backwardneſs of the Auſtrians, by following their rout, and, thereby getting between the right and the left of the confederate army, they intirely divided it. The duke of Cumberland, in endeavouring to rally the Dutch, found himſelf now in the center, which was in a manner routed, (the Auſtrians all this time remaining unconcerned ſpectators, or advancing ſo ſlowly, that they were of no uſe) and it was with the utmoſt difficulty he could rejoin the left, whoſe right flank, and the right flank of the village they ſuſtained, were now expoſed to a double fire, that in the front, and that from the enemy, which had got between them and the center.

The enemy now flattered themſelves, that by bringing their whole force upon the left of the allied army, they ſhould be able to cut off their retreat to Maeſtricht, and conſequently to take his royal highneſs priſoner. Their principal attack was led on by the Iriſh and Scotch brigades; and many of the latter having been at the battle of Culloden, their fury was inexpreſſible, as well as that of the Iriſh. It is hard to ſay what the conſequence muſt have been, had not ſir John Ligonier put himſelf at the head of the North Britiſh dragoons, and the other Britiſh cavalry, together with a few ſquadrons of Imperial huſſars, who opportunely charged the enemy with great ſucceſs, overthrowing all before them. But receiving a ſharp fire in the purſuit from ſome of the firſt line

line of the French, who were poſted in a hollow way and behind ſome hedges, to favour the flight of their cavalry, a great many of them were killed. The allied cavalry, however, attacked them; and though the French were ſupported by a body of their own cavalry, they were defeated. But in this laſt attack, ſir John Ligonier, to whom the preſervation of the duke's liberty and all the Britiſh troops was, that day, owing, was made priſoner. Geo. II. 1747. Sir John Ligonier ſaves the allied army, but is taken priſoner.

By theſe two ſpirited attacks of the cavalry from the left wing of the confederates, his royal highneſs had time to make diſpoſitions for a retreat towards Maeſtricht; it being impoſſible, as the confederate army was abſolutely divided, to make any further head againſt the enemy. He therefore called off his cavalry, and ſent orders to marſhal Bathiani to favour his retreat to Maeſtricht, and that he would move towards Welt Veſel and Lonaken. This done, he retired the left wing ſlowly and in good order, bringing off all his heavy field artillery, though they were advanced before the village of Val. The ſmall cannon that they loſt, it was impoſſible to bring off, as many of them had the wheels broke, and others were too far advanced at the time they began to retire. The enemy cannonaded them in their retreat, but attempted nothing farther, ſeeing the good order the confederated retired in, and knowing how greatly they, the French, had already ſuffered. Had not his royal highneſs judiciouſly made his retreat by the way of Welt Veſel and Lonaken, inſtead of retreating by Wirle and Nackum, it is probable that the Dutch and the Auſtrians might have been cut in pieces; but the French were thereby kept in awe. The left wing got to Maeſtricht about five o'clock, and the Dutch and left wing, by ſeven. The enemy ſeemed to have a mind to attack prince Wolfenbuttel, who made the rear guard; but after exchanging ſome ſmall ſhot, found it too difficult, and retired. London Gazette.

Such was the battle of Val, in which it may be truly ſaid, that the Britiſh troops, aſſiſted by a few Hanoverians and Heſſians, oppoſed the whole French army; and had not the Dutch, by infamous cowardice, ſuffered the flank of the left wing of the confederates to be expoſed to the French, the victory, in all probability, notwithſtanding the inactivity of the Auſtrians, muſt have fallen to his royal highneſs. The loſs of the allies in killed, wounded, and miſſing, amounted to about 6000 men; but that of the French to about 11,000. Beſides ſir John Ligonier, major general count d'Yſſemburg, who headed the Heſſian cavalry, was wounded and taken priſoner, and major general Bland was wounded in the arm, colonel Loſs on both ſides.

Geo. II. 1747. colonel Conway and lieutenant colonel lord Robert Sutton, of the duke's regiment of dragoons, were made priſoners. In ſhort, almoſt the whole of the loſs fell upon the Engliſh, Heſſians, and Hanoverians; that of the Dutch and Auſtrians being too inconſiderable to be named. The allies carried off ſeven ſtandards and eight pair of colours, with 700 priſoners and 60 officers, ſome of them perſons of diſtinction.

Cowardly behaviour of the Dutch and Auſtrians.

The behaviour of the Dutch in this battle, gave but too much room for the confederates to complain; and the haughtineſs of marſhal Bathiani, which had been ſhocked before the battle, was thought to be the true reaſon why he did not exert himſelf more than he did. Some, at that time, drew very bad conſtructions upon the conduct both of the Dutch and Auſtrians, by ſurmiſing, that the French and they were in a concert to ſacrifice the left wing of the allied army; and this ſuſpicion received ſome colour from the cowardly behaviour of the Dutch, and from the very ſmall number of troops which the French drew up to oppoſe the Auſtrians. Be this as it will, marſhal Saxe owned, that he was ſeveral times repulſed by the valour of the Engliſh; and his maſter was heard to ſay, "that he thought the Britiſh not only paid all, but fought all." After the battle, the garriſon of Maeſtricht was reinforced by two Engliſh, three Auſtrian, and five Dutch battallions; and, next morning, the allied army paſſed the Maeſe at Maeſtricht, and extended themſelves towards Viſt, in the dutchy of Limberg, with their head quarters at Heer. The French ſtill continued at Tongres, and after amuſing the confederates for ſome time by marching and countermarching, count Lowendahl, all of a ſudden, was detached with a body of 30,000 men, who inveſted Bergen-op-Zoom.

Bergen-op-Zoom beſieged.

This place was generally looked upon as being impregnable. It was the maſter-piece of Cochorn, and other great maſters of fortification, and had bid defiance to the greateſt armies that had ever beſieged it, and therefore the inhabitants thought themſelves ſecure againſt any attack. The ſtadtholder was then at the Hague, and upon information that Bergen-op-Zoom was inveſted by the French, the council of ſtate was aſſembled, and it was reſolved, that the utmoſt endeavours ſhould be exerted for its preſervation. Before Lowendahl inveſted it, he had laid Sandvleit in aſhes; and he opened his trenches on the 15th of July. The prince of Heſſe Philipſtahl then commanded in the town, with a garriſon of 3000 men, and he had a communication with the lines of Roſendahl, by which he was always ſure of proviſions and reinforcements. The prince of Saxe Hildburghauſen

N. S.

hauſen had got within the lines of the place, and was at the head of 20 battallions and 14 ſquadrons, and expected every day a ſtrong reinforcement from the main army. As this was the moſt memorable ſiege in the whole war, and was, indeed, deciſive of it, it may be proper to give a ſhort account of its fortifications, as they ſtood at the time that Lowendahl opened his trenches before it. On the ſide of Antwerp is a large half moon, joining a fortified line called Kyken-de-Pot, ſtrengthened by four good redoubts furniſhed with cannon. On the ſide of the Scheld are two canals, called the old and new harbour, by which, at every tide, proviſions and ſupplies may be carried into the town in ſpite of the beſiegers. At the entrance of the old harbour was the fort called Noordſchant, now ruined. The entrance of the new harbour is covered by a regular fort of 5 baſtions, called Zuyd Schants, ſo ſituated, as to defend both entrances. On the ſide of Steenbergen, are the forts of Moermont, Pinſen, and Rover, with a well fortified line extended to the laſt-mentioned fort, beyond which is an inundation reaching to Steenbergen; beſides, by means of ſluices, a great part of the country round the town may be laid under water. On the eaſt is another inundation, formed by the waters of the Scheld and the Zoom, which renders the country on that ſide marſhy and inacceſſible. The body of the place is defended by a rampart, about a league in circumference, flanked by ten baſtions, which are covered by five hornworks. Geo. II. 1747.

Lowendahl having inveſted the town on the ſide of Antwerp, ſummoned it to ſurrender; but was told by the governor, that he was reſolved to defend it to the utmoſt. Upon this the French, after their heavy artillery was arrived, opened the ſiege with great vigour, which was as warmly returned by the beſieged. But on the 29th, old baron Cronſtrom, who had been appointed governor of Dutch Brabant by the ſtadtholder, arrived and took upon himſelf the command of the garriſon, and began by acting againſt the enemy with redoubled vigour. The magnificent accounts which was at this time publiſhed through all the courts of the confederates, as well as in Holland, of the brave defence the garriſon made, and of the vaſt ſlaughter the French ſuſtained from it, though they were generally void of foundation, gave great ſpirit to the allies; but in fact the approaches of the French were made with great judgment and great ſucceſs; Lowendahl having beforehand foretold what number of men it would coſt them to take the place. They ſpent nine days in making their approaches, which they did with ſo much

ſkill,

Geo. II. 1747. ſkill, that they did not loſe one third of the number which the beſieged pretended they loſt. It is certain, however, that they ſuffered ſo conſiderably, as to induce Lowendahl to demand from Cronſtrom a ſuſpenſion of arms, that he might bury his dead; which was denied him. Lowendahl, however, being aſſured, either from the rules of his own art, or, which is more probable, by ſome ſecret intelligence, that he muſt become maſter of the place, proceeded with great unconcern, and attacked the forts Rover and Pinſen, which lay in front of the lines where the prince of Saxe Hilburghauſen commanded. As Lowendahl, by this time, had received a ſtrong reinforcement from marſhal Saxe, it is more than probable that he would have carried the two forts, and conſequently Bergen-op-Zoom itſelf, had not the regiment of Highlanders, under lord John Murray, made a ſally, and after killing about 400 of the enemy, burnt their batteries, and forced them to retire. Several of the French batteries, after this, were likewiſe deſtroyed, and a great many fruitleſs attacks made, ſeveral mines being ſprung on both ſides. But though Lowendahl found the attempt difficult, he proceeded upon ſure principles, that he was ſure to ſucceed at laſt. For prince Waldeck having reſigned his command to lieutenant general baron Schwartzemburg, the latter was joined at Oudenboſch by major general Burmania, with all the cavalry from the lines; ſo that in the whole his detachment conſiſted of 20 battallions and 32 ſquadrons. With this force, Schwarzemberg concerted with the prince of Saxe Hilburghauſen to attack the beſiegers, the prince being to fall upon them at the ſame time from his lines. But this attack being ill concerted, and worſe executed, proved ineffectual, though it was attended with the junction of general Baronai, at the head of 6000 light horſe, with the main army.

After this ſome Engliſh engineers arrived for the defence of the town, its communication with the confederate armies and the neighbouring country never having been ſhut up, and its garriſon enjoying all kind of conveniencies and proviſions, even to luxury. But it is extreamly hard to write the particulars of this ſiege, both parties giving ſuch contradictory accounts of it; though thoſe of the French are moſt to be depended upon. It is certain, that the beſiegers intrenched themſelves ſo deeply, that they did not ſuffer near ſo much as their enemies gave out. But they deſtroyed St. James's church, and ſeveral other public edifices, which greatly exaſperated the inhabitants; and the garriſon made ſo good a defence, that marſhal Saxe ſent Lowendahl a new reinforcement

ment of 12,000 men; and the army under baron Schwartzenberg was increaſed in horſe and foot to about 30,000. The ſiege, after this, went on with amazing vigour. The beſieged every day publiſhed very extraordinary accounts of the great reſiſtance they made, and of the great execution they did upon the French army, whoſe loſs they pretended amounted to upwards of 15,000 men. Upon St. Louis's day, the beſiegers made a very deſperate attempt to carry the place; but it was not till the 15th of September that the breaches were practicable for ſtorming it. All this while, it was the artificial and natural ſtrength of the town, rather than the ſkill and courage of the garriſon, that defended it; nor did Cronſtrom take any vigorous meaſures. As ſoon as Lowendahl ſaw the breaches practicable, he ordered the place to be ſtormed, which was done with great eaſe, and great ſafety. The garriſon, all but the Highlanders, who fought very boldly, made a moſt abject defence. Conſtrom, the governor, tho' it was eaſy to ſee that the deſign of the French was to ſtorm the town, had made no preparations againſt the aſſault, and had not above 3000 men in the place, while 20,000 men, whom he might have employed, lay in the lines; nay, he was ſo ſupinely indolent, that had it not been for the brave reſiſtance of the Highlanders, he muſt have been taken priſoner in his bed. The particulars of the aſſault are ſo variouſly related by both parties, that, recent as the fact is, they cannot well be depended upon. The moſt probable opinion is, that the old members of the Dutch government having hints from the French that they were diſpoſed to a peace, prevailed with Cronſtrom to ſuffer the place to be ſurprized. The garriſon, all, excepting the Highlanders, ſcarce made a ſhew of reſiſtance after the French mounted the works, (which, notwithſtanding the breaches, were very tenable) for they threw down their arms; and inſtead of defending themſelves from ſtreet to ſtreet, as their Gazettes gave out, many of their officers run off in their night-gowns. The troops in the lines in like manner diſappeared, without making the leaſt ſtand; and when the French entered the place, no more than the ordinary centinels were upon their duty, the reſt of the Dutch garriſon taking their repoſe. In ſhort, the boaſted defence of the place, and the dreadful aſſaults given to it from time to time, appear to have been partly fictitious, and to have been concerted between the beſiegers and the aſſailants. The only difficulty both parties ſeem at laſt to have been under, was how the place might be given up with a ſhew of decency; which indeed it was not. For though Lowendahl, by perſeverance,

Geo. II. 1747.

and taken.

Geo. II. 1747.

verance, might at laſt have reduced it, yet it muſt have coſt him an immenſe number of men, and a great deal of time, before he could have ſucceeded; and the brave reſiſtance made by the Highlanders, had they been ſeconded by the Dutch, proved how practicable it was to have made a much more vigorous defence. The praiſes beſtowed by Lowendahl upon Cronſtrom and the Dutch, ſeemed to confirm the opinion that the place was betrayed or given up by conſent. Be this as it will, the French king thought the conqueſt of Bergen-op-Zoom ſo important, that he made Lowendahl a marſhal of France. All the forts and little places in the neighbourhood, followed the fate of Bergen-op-Zoom. Four thouſand additional troops of Hanover in Britiſh pay, joined the confederates near Maeſtricht; and at laſt, after ſeveral marches and countermarches, both armies went into winter-quarters; the French into the country they had conquered, the Engliſh, Dutch, and Hanoverians in the neighbourhood of Breda, and the Imperialiſts between the Maeſe and the Rhine; while the duke of Cumberland returned to England, where, as well as over all Europe, the opinion of an approaching peace prevailed.

Both armies go into winter quarters.

The campaign in Italy.

Marſhal Belleiſle and his brother were, all this time, very active againſt the Auſtrians on the ſide of Italy, and after forcing count Brown to retire out of Provence, they took Nice, Montalban, Villa Franca, and Ventimiglia, while the Auſtrians were obliged to retire toward Final and Savona. This encouraged Belleiſle to project an irruption into Piedmont, and he committed the execution of it to his brother the chevalier. But he miſcarried in his attempt, and was killed in endeavouring to force the ſtrong poſt of Exilles. The court of France, however, ſucceeded better in their attempt to ſupport Genoa againſt the Auſtrians. The latter were exaſperated to the laſt degree againſt the Genoeſe; and Schuylemburg, who now commanded the Auſtrian troops, determined, at all events, to attempt the re-conqueſt of Genoa, though he was but very ill provided with artillery for that purpoſe. The French court knew the importance of Genoa too well, not to exert itſelf in ſupporting that republic, which they did in the moſt effectual manner. Large ſums of money were remitted by order of his moſt Chriſtian majeſty, to put the ſtate in a poſture of defence. Engineers and officers were ſent to diſcipline the Genoeſe troops; and at laſt the duke of Boufflers came as ambaſſador from the court of France, to animate them to a vigorous defence. Beſides this, a large detachment of troops were ſent from Belleiſle's army; but part of them were met by the Britiſh fleet, and were

taken,

taken, or obliged to return to France. Some, however, arrived at Genoa, and gave great ſpirit both to the ſenate and the people, who made preparations to defend the place to the utmoſt extremity, rather than again ſubmit to the Auſtrians. Geo. II. 1747.

Schuylemburg, on the other hand, found himſelf under great inconveniencies. His army was weak, and the king of Sardinia, upon whom he depended for a reinforcement, was, in the mean time, far from being deſirous to ſee the Auſtrians maſters of Genoa. Schuylemburg ſent colonel Blonchedi to Turin, in order to repreſent the inability he was under to act againſt the Genoeſe, ſtrengthened, as they now were, not only by the French and Spaniards, and underhand aſſiſted by the king of Naples, without a reinforcement from his Sardinian majeſty. Blonchedi, before he could ſucceed, was obliged to apply to the Britiſh ambaſſador, who prevailed with his majeſty to grant the deſired reinforcements upon the following conditions: "That the dominions of the Genoeſe, excepting their city, ſhall be equally divided between the Auſtrians and his Sardinian majeſty, the former to have the eaſtern, and the latter the weſtern Riviera; only that the port of Lima, as ſoon as reduced, ſhall be given to Francis emperor of Germany and grand duke of Tuſcany. That his Sardinian majeſty, in conſequence of being admitted to an equal ſhare of the ſpoils of Genoa, ſhall furniſh twelve battallions and a train of artillery to be ſent from Savona." But before Schuylemburg ventured upon hoſtilities, he made an effort to perſuade the Genoeſe to ſubmit: but all was in vain; for they declared their reſolution of ſtanding out to the laſt extremity. Upon this, hoſtilities began, and the Auſtrians forced the paſſage of the Bochetta, and, for ſome time, were in a fair way of poſſeſſing themſelves of Genoa. The duke of Bouflers, at that time, commanded the troops in Genoa, while the marſhal Belleiſle lay at Ventimiglia, with a deſign to penetrate into Piedmont and Lombardy, and to raiſe the ſiege of Genoa. It was owing to him that the Genoeſe were delivered; for though Schuylemburg was ſucceſsful in every attack upon the out forts and paſſes of the city, he could not make himſelf maſter of it; and, the king of Sardinia growing extreamly uneaſy at the progreſs of Belleiſle, Schuylemburg was obliged to give over the ſiege. It was then the general opinion, that had Schuylemburg been ſuffered to continue the ſiege, he would have taken the city; but the truth is, the king of Sardinia began to relapſe into his jealouſy of the Auſtrians. The Genoeſe, notwithſtanding all the vigilance of the Britiſh fleet, had found means, from time to time, to throw ſuccours

Genoa beſieged,

and delivered.

Geo. II. 1747. ſuccours into their city; and the Britiſh admiral concurred in opinion with his Sardinian majeſty, that the troops under Schuylemburg, and employed in the ſiege, ought to be drawn off for the defence of Piedmont and Lombardy. By this, the Genoeſe, when at the brink of perdition, recovered their liberty and preſerved their country; and all the armies in Italy, as it were by mutual conſent, about the middle of October, went into winter quarters.

The French fleet defeated and taken.

The naval operations of the Engliſh were this year glorious in ſome places. The French, according to their new ſcheme for improving their marine, had redoubled their diligence, by fitting out two freſh fleets, one deſtined for America, to be commanded by monſieur de la Jonquiere, and another to the Eaſt-Indies, to be commanded by monſieur de St. George. The Engliſh miniſtry having intelligence of their deſtination, fitted out a fleet under vice-admiral Anſon and rear-admiral Warren, conſiſting of one 90 gun ſhip, one 74, one 66, three 64, five 60, three 50, and one 40, beſides ſloops and fire-ſhips. This ſquadron, on the 3d of May, being off Cape Finiſterre, fell in with the French fleet, conſiſting of nine ſhips of war, which acted as convoy to 29 merchant-ſhips. The French ſhips of war immediately ſhortened ſail, and drew into a line of battle, while the merchant-ſhips ſtretched away to the weſtward. Upon this Mr. Anſon fearing the whole might eſcape, made the ſignal for the whole fleet to chaſe and engage the enemy, without minding the line of battle. Mr. Warren engaged the Invincible, the largeſt ſhip in the enemy's fleet, and was ſeconded by captain Montague in the Briſtol; and the Invincible was taken after a ſmart engagement. The battle begun about four o'clock in the afternoon, by captain Dennis attacking the ſternmoſt French ſhip; and between ſix and ſeven o'clock all the ſhips in the rear of the French fleet ſtruck their colours, as did all thoſe which were in the line before night. The number and quality of the ſhips taken were as follows: Le Serieux, M. de la Jonquiere chief d'Eſcadre, 66 guns, 556 men; Le Invincible, M. de St. George, 74 guns, 700 men; Le Diamant, Hoquart, 56 guns, 450 men; Le Jaſon, Beccard, 52 guns, 355 men; Le Rubis, M'Carty, 52 guns, 328 men; Le Glorr, Saleſſe, 44 guns, 330 men, and the Eaſt-India company's ſhips fitted out as men of war: L' Apollon, De Santons, 30 guns, 132 men; Le Philibert, Celeie, 30 guns, 170 men; Le Thetis, Macon, 20 guns, 100 men, with the Eaſt-India ſhip taken by the Falcon ſloop, Le Darmouth, captain Peneche, 18 guns and 50 men.

This

This loſs was a moſt dreadful blow to the French, who, however, behaved with great ſpirit and gallantry. The loſs of the Engliſh, in killed and wounded, were about 520 men, amongſt whom captain Greenville, of the Defiance man of war, a young commander of great courage and honour, loſt his life. About 700 French were killed and wounded; and all the captains of the Britiſh fleet acquitted themſelves to admiration, particularly captain Boſcawen in the Namur, which was very hotly engaged, received a muſquet ball in the ſhoulder. The French admiral was wounded, and one of his captains was killed. Their fleet was to have ſeparated in a day or two; the Invincible and Jaſon were bound to the Eaſt-Indies, with the trade and ſtore ſhips; the other ſhips were for Canada with ſoldiers and ſtores, to enable the inhabitants to retake Cape Breton. His majeſty thought this action of ſo much conſequence, that he not only received admiral Anſon with particular diſtinctions of honour but created him a lord, and admiral Warren was made a knight of the Bath. Beſides the ſhips that were taken, the treaſure found on board them was very conſiderable. About the time this action happened, the Engliſh miniſtry having intelligence that the French Domingo fleet were homeward-bound under a convoy of four men of war, ordered the Kent and the Hampton Court, two 70 gun ſhips, the Eagle and the Lyon of 60 guns, the Cheſter of 50, the Hector of 44, with the Pluto and Dolphin fire ſhips, to proceed to ſea under the command of captain Fox, who cruiſed for the enemy's homeward-bound fleet, between Uſhant and Cape Finiſterre. At laſt, on the 20th of June, the French fleet, to the number of 170 ſail, appeared under the convoy of one 74 gun ſhip, one of 64, one of 58, and one of 30, commanded by commodore de la Motte, who made the beſt of his way from the Britiſh ſquadron. But the latter took 46 of their merchant ſhips; the reſt, together with their men of war, getting into Breſt and other ports, notwithſtanding the vigilance of the Britiſh commanders, particularly of admiral Warren, who was ſtationed ſo as to intercept the ſhips that might eſcape from commodore Fox.

Upon the return of admiral Warren and Fox to Plymouth, the admiralty had intelligence, that the French American fleet, conſiſting of 250 merchant ſhips, and eſcorted by a ſtrong ſquadron from Breſt, were aſſembling at the iſland of Aix. Upon this, rear-admiral Hawke was diſpatched with the following ſhips under his command, the Devonſhire of 66 guns, the Kent of 64, the Edinburgh of 70, Yarmouth,

Geo. II. 1747.

Loſs on both ſides.

Admiral Anſon made a lord.

Farther loſſes of the French.

They are defeated by admiral Hawke.

Geo. II. 1747. 64; Monmouth, 70; Princeſs Louiſa, Windſor, Lyon, Tilbury, Nottingham, Defiance, and Eagle, all of 60 guns, and the Glouceſter and Portland of 50 guns. On the 14th of October, this fleet fell in with the French Weſt-India fleet, which was under the convoy of one ſhip of 80 guns, three of 74, one of 70, two of 64, and one of 56 guns, beſides a good number of large frigates. This happened at ſeven in the morning, the Engliſh fleet being in latitude 47° 49′ N. and longitude from Cape Finiſterre 1° 2′ W. The admiral finding he loſt time in forming the line, and that the enemy were endeavouring to get from him; at eleven made ſignal for the whole ſquadron to chaſe; and after a long and an obſtinate fight, the following French ſhips were taken: Le Terrible, of 74 guns; Le Monarque, 74; Le Neptune, 70; Le Trident, 64; Le Fougeux, 64, and Le Severne, 50. It was acknowledged on all hands, that the French never behaved better at ſea than they did upon this occaſion; for their loſs, excepting that of their men of war, was but inconſiderable. Admiral Hawke, however, upon the event of the fight, immediately manned and victualled the Weazel ſloop, and diſpatched her to commodore Legg, who commanded an Engliſh ſquadron in the Weſt-Indies, to put him upon his guard as to what had happened, that he might intercept the French merchantmen. The loſs of the Engliſh in this engagement was 154 men killed, amongſt whom was captain Saumerez, and 558 wounded; but the French had about 800 killed and wounded, and upwards of 3000 taken priſoners. Admiral Hawke beſtowed great praiſes upon all his officers, excepting captain Fox, who he thought had ſuffered the Tonant, a French ſhip, to eſcape, and he therefore deſired he ſhould be brought to a court-martial. Fox, who had always before been eſteemed an able and active officer, was accordingly tried at Portſmouth by a court-martial, of which admiral Warren was preſident. The charge againſt him was, that he did not come properly into the fight, nor do his utmoſt to engage, diſtreſs, and endamage the enemy, nor aſſiſt ſuch ſhips as did. It was plain from the trial how little thoſe who of themſelves were warmly engaged, were proper judges of another's conduct who was engaged likewiſe; for though the witneſſes againſt Fox were all of them men of unqueſtionable honour and veracity, yet the court were ſatisfied, that the Kent, which Fox commanded, engaged the Fougueux three quarters of an hour within muſket and piſtol-ſhot, till ſhe ſtruck to her. That the Kent then ſhot ahead, and engaged the Tonant for half an hour, till ſhe carried

Trial of captain Fox for miſbehaviour.

carried away the Tonant's topmaſt, when the Kent forged ahead, her braces, preventers, and hoppers being all ſhot away. The trial ended the ſame day it begun, being the 25th of November; and the court was of opinion, that part of the charge was proved, and that he had been guilty of backing his mizen topſail, and leaving the Tonant, contrary to the 10th and 11th articles of war. They acquitted him, however, of the charge of cowardice; but becauſe he paid too much regard to the advice of his officers, contrary to his better judgment, paſſed ſentence, that he be diſmiſſed from the preſent command of the Kent. This ſentence, however, was afterwards thought a little too ſevere, and captain Fox was next year promoted to the rank of a rear-admiral. Geo. II. 1747.

Proceedings of the Britiſh fleet in the Mediterranean.

Vice-admiral Medley ſtill continued, with the utmoſt diligence, to watch the Spaniſh fleet at Carthagena. He had under him the Barfleur of 90 guns, the Carolina, Dorſetſhire, Norfolk, Ruſſel, Somerſet, and Torbay of 80; the Bedford, Eſſex, and Royal Oak of 70; and the Dunkirk of 60 guns, beſides frigates. But the numerous ſupplies ſent, or attempted to be ſent, by the French and Spaniards to the relief of Genoa, rendered it neceſſary to increaſe Medley's force. Accordingly a large fleet of merchantmen ſailing to the Mediterranean, rear-admiral Byng was appointed to convoy them, having the Rupert and Superbe of 60 guns each under his command, together with the Colcheſter and Litchfield of 50, and the Winchelſea of 20 guns. Notwithſtanding this reinforcement, a great many ſuccours ſtill continued to get into Genoa, which raiſed a number of reports to the diſadvantage of admiral Medley; but he was fully cleared by the court of Vienna, in an authentic article publiſhed in his vindication. Upon his death, which happened on the 5th of Auguſt this year, admiral Byng took the command of the Engliſh ſquadron in the Mediterranian, but with no better ſucceſs, in preventing ſuccours from getting into Genoa.

Death of admiral Medley.

Affairs in the Eaſt-Indies.

Notwithſtanding the Engliſh marine were thus triumphant in Europe and America, affairs continued to have a very different aſpect in the Eaſt-Indies, where Madraſs ſtill remained in poſſeſſion of the French. It is probable they muſt have made themſelves maſters of Fort St. David alſo, had not commodore Griffin arrived in thoſe ſeas with a reinforcement for the Britiſh ſquadron, conſiſting of three ſhips of 60 guns, one of 50, and one of 40, which, with the ſquadron already there, compoſed a very conſiderable force, and deterred the French from proceeding on the ſiege. Griffin

Geo II. 1747. took the command from Peyton. He found himſelf, notwithſtanding, unable to do any thing effectually againſt Pondicherry, or to retake Madraſs, the fortifications of which had been improved by the French. He blocked up Pondicherry, however, for many weeks, and reduced it to great difficulties, though the French ſquadron there was more powerful than his own; and he even burnt the Neptune, one of their men of war, in Madraſs road. But the French indemnified themſelves by keeping the Britiſh colours flying at Fort St. George, which deceived the Princeſs Amelia, an Engliſh Eaſt-India ſhip, who thought the fort was ſtill in the hands of the Engliſh, and coming into the road, ſhe was taken by the French. The ſame deception muſt have been fatal to ſeveral other of the Eaſt India ſhips, had it not been for the vigilance and good fortune of their commanders and crews. Commodore Griffin, however, was ſo unfortunate as to let a ſtrong reinforcement of French ſhips ſlip into Madraſs, with men, money, and ſtores, and to return from thence before the Engliſh ſquadron was in a condition to attack them.

The Engliſh Eaſt India company were ſenſible of the ill condition of their affairs in the Eaſt-Indies, and repreſented it to the government, who pitched upon rear-admiral Boſcawen to ſail thither, with a force ſufficient to undertake the ſiege of Pondicherry; being appointed a general, as well as an admiral, to prevent all diſputes between the land and ſea officers.

Admiral Boſcawen ſails thither with a ſquadron.

He ſailed from Portſmouth on the 1ſt of November, with the following ſhips under his command: the Namur of 74 guns, the Vigilante of 64, the Deptford and Pembroke of 60, the Ruby and Cheſter of 50, the Deal Caſtle of 20, the Swallow ſloop of 14, and a bomb ſhip of 12 guns, with the Apollo hoſpital ſhip, and a bomb tender. The ſhips that were before him in the Eaſt Indies were four of 60 guns, four of 50, two of 40, and one of 20. He carried out with him a conſiderable body of land forces, with ſtores and neceſſaries of all kinds; and the public had the higheſt expectations of his ſucceſs, from the great character he bore both for courage and conduct, which rendered him extreamly well beloved by the ſailors and ſoldiers under him. Having landed at Fort St. David, he immediately ordered the troops, ſtores, and neceſſaries on ſhore for undertaking the ſiege of Pondicherry. His land forces went into a camp which he formed about a mile from Fort St. David; and when they were joined by the marines under Griffin, they amounted to about 4000 Europeans beſides 2000 Indians. Captain Lille, of the Vigilant, was left to command

command the fleet, with orders to anchor within two miles of Pondicherry; and all the ſloops of the ſquadron were employed to take ſoundings, that they might know how near the great ſhips could go to the town, in caſe the French ſquadron, which was now in the ſtreights of Malacca, ſhould attempt to reinforce it. By this time, Dupleix, the governor of Pondicherry, and Paradis, the chief engineer, both of them men of experience and abilities, had employed their utmoſt art not only in fortifying the place itſelf, but in throwing up intrenchments and works in all the approaches to it, particularly upon a river about three miles diſtant from the town, and called Aria Coupan. Geo. II. 1747.

He beſieges Pondicherry.

It was the 8th of Auguſt before the Engliſh army under Boſcawen could march for Pondicherry, from whence they were diſtant about 24 miles, and which was garriſoned by about 2000 Europeans and 3000 natives. The Engliſh met with no great oppoſition till they came to the fort of Aria Coupan, which they found to be ſo ſtrong, that they were obliged to bring artillery from on board to batter it; and it was with ſome difficulty, and after a very brave reſiſtance, that it was taken. The reduction of this fort enabled the beſiegers to take another ſtrong poſt within a mile of Pondicherry, which the land forces inveſted on the north-weſt, while the ſhips kept it blocked up on the northward. On the 1ſt of September the French made a ſally from the town, but were vigorouſly repulſed, with the loſs of 100 men, and ſome of their beſt officers, amongſt whom was Paradis, who was mortally wounded. By this time, the admiral had received a reinforcement of 1000 ſailors, who did regular duty amongſt the landmen; but the French having found means to make a large inundation before their works, and being provided with a great number of batteries, which were well ſupplied with cannon, and greatly annoyed the beſiegers, captain Liſle was ordered to bombard the citadel with the bomb ſhip. But this attempt was found to be both ineffectual and dangerous, on account of their ſuperior fire from their works. Upon this, the ſhips were ordered to begin a general cannonading, which they performed, but with very little ſucceſs, while the French plied the Engliſh very warmly on the land ſide, and by means of the inundation, prevented their making any farther approaches towards the place; though they did great damage to the works, tho' without being able to make a practicable breach upon the curtain. Upon this, on the 30th of September, the admiral called a council of war, where it was found that the army was greatly

Geo. II. 1747. reduced; that ſickneſs was beginning to make great havock amongſt them; that if they continued the ſiege, they were in danger of being cut off from any retreat to Fort St. David's; and that the nature of the climate and country rendered it dangerous, and next to impoſſible, to perſevere in an undertaking that had no proſpect of ſucceſs. It was further to be feared, that the rivers would ſoon grow impaſſable in that advanced ſeaſon, and that the ſhips could no longer continue on the coaſt. For thoſe and many other reaſons, it was unanimouſly reſolved to raiſe the ſiege, and reembark the ſtores and cannon, which was done in as good order as could be expected; and on the 6th of October the army began their march back to Fort St. David, having demoliſhed the fort of Aria Coupan, without being moleſted on their way by the French. The Britiſh admiral ſoon after met with a ſtorm upon the coaſt of Coromandel, which deſtroyed ſeveral of his ſhips, and above 1200 of his men.

but is obliged to raiſe the ſiege.

Ruſſian troops taken into the pay of Great Britain.

Notwithſtanding the miſcarriage of the Engliſh in the Eaſt-Indies, they had ſo greatly, upon the whole, the ſuperiority over the French by ſea, that a very ſerious reſolution to conclude peace, at all events, was taken in the French council. England and Holland, ſince the elevation of the prince of Orange to the ſtadtholderſhip, were, on the other hand, now more united than ever, and had nothing to fear but the vaſt ſuperiority which France had acquired upon the continent. To counterballance this diſadvantage, his Britannic majeſty entered into a negotiation with the court of Ruſſia, for hiring a body of 30,000 troops. This meaſure had been ſome time in agitation, and the czarina, who had no reaſon to be pleaſed with France, had ſhown a very ready diſpoſition to enter into it. The negotiation, however, was not without its difficulties; the number of troops propoſed was 30,000, and her Ruſſian majeſty was unable to put them in motion, without 100,000 l. being paid down by the court of England, and 300,000 l. a year for three years, if they were ſo long employed. But the march of this army from Ruſſia to the Low Countries, muſt be attended with ſuch loſs of time and other inconveniencies, that freſh difficulties were ſtarted on that head. The czarina offered to tranſport them in her gallies to ſome port in the Baltic. Had this been done directly, the effects might have been very ſalutary to Europe; but ſome of the greateſt men in England, though they approved of the meaſure, as the beſt that could be purſued in the then ſituation of affairs, thought that the war laſted too long, and were very backward towards doing any thing that might

might rekindle it afreſh, in caſe the French were ſincere in the pacific profeſſions they were daily making at the Hague and other courts. It was conſidered, that with the advantages France then had in the Low Countries, even 30,000 Ruſſians would be inſufficient to counter-ballance them; and the immenſe expences which Great Britain was at in ſubſidies, and the payment of their own fleets and armies, rendered the prolongation of the war on her part extreamly undeſirable. Geo. II. 1747. Difficulties of the Engliſh miniſtry.

The prince of Orange himſelf was ſecretly no enemy to the ſame pacification; but both he, as well as the Britiſh government, thought that the confederates could by no means obtain ſo good terms, as by ſeeming vigorouſly to prepare for the war. The earl of Hindford, therefore, on the part of his Britannic majeſty, ſigned the treaty for the 30,000 auxiliaries, and the Dutch afterwards engaged to pay one fourth part of the expence.

Beſides this important treaty, ſeveral others had been negotiating all over Europe. France kept her footing in Denmark. But that prince ſtill behaved with great deference to his father-in law the king of Great Britain, and had offered, in conjunction wi h the czarina and the king of Pruſſia, to ſend over a body of troops to Scotland, to aſſiſt in ſuppreſſing the rebellion in 1745 and 6. The king of Pruſſia, after the prodigious efforts he had made to maintain his new acquiſitions, ſeemed diſpoſed to cultivate within his own dominions the arts of peace. Manufactures, literature, and commerce, were *moſt* ſignally encouraged, not only by his patronage, but by his example; but all this he did without reducing his army. The ſucceſſes of the queen of Hungary in Italy, gave him a jealouſy, that as ſoon as ſhe found leiſure, ſhe would employ her arms in diſpoſſeſſing him of Sileſia. The Dutch, notwithſtanding all the application of Great Britain, had refuſed to guaranty to him that dutchy; and he grew very apprehenſive of the growing connections between England and the czarina, and of their intention of marching an army of the Ruſſians into the empire, as he knew the court of Peterſburgh was not without its pretentions upon ſome part of his territories. The haughty behaviour of the Imperial court increaſed thoſe apprehenſions, and obliged him, againſt his better judgment, to enter into certain ſecret engagements with the French, as being his moſt natural allies, againſt the power of the houſe of Auſtria. On the other hand, his apprehenſions were not ill grounded; for a treaty was concluded between the two empreſſe, of Germany State of affairs on the continent.

Geo. II. 1747. and of Ruſſia, importing, that if the czarina ſhould be attacked or inquieted by any one whomſoever, ſo that ſhe thought it neceſſary to claim the ſuccour of her alliance, the empreſs queen ſhould ſend her, within the term of three months from the day of the requiſition, a ſuccour of 30,000 men, 20,000 foot and 10,000 horſe, which ſhould remain in the ſervice of the czarina, as long as the ſaid attack or vexation ſhould ſubſiſt. The ſame ſuccour was alſo granted by the czarina to the empreſs queen. But it was mutually agreed, that this alliance ſhould not extend with regard to either of the parties if the czarina ſhould be attacked by Perſia, or if the ſtates of the empreſs queen in Italy ſhould be attacked; nor was this engagement to reach to the war which exiſted in Italy, nor to any other war between the empreſs queen and the crown of Spain. However it was agreed, if the empreſs queen ſhould be attacked in Italy, the czarina ſhould keep ready a corps of 30,000 men; and in like manner if the czarina ſhould be attacked by Perſia, the empreſs queen ſhould alſo keep 30,000 men in readineſs: which reciprocal preparative ſhould be made by the two high contracting powers, that they might be the more ready to furniſh mutually the neceſſary ſuccours, if another war ſhould happen to ariſe before thoſe in Italy or Perſia were terminated.

Intrigues of France at Conſtantinople.

In order to counter ballance this treaty, the court of France ſent the marquis de Caſtellane to Conſtantinople, to attempt to diſpoſe the Turks to break with the houſe of Auſtria, and to diſown the election of the emperor. The marquis, in a ſolemn audience, diſplayed a great deal of vitious eloquence to perſwade the Turkiſh miniſtry of their danger from the ambition and power of the houſe of Auſtria, which was now at peace in Germany, and at leiſure, in conjunction with the empreſs of Ruſſia, to employ a large body of troops againſt the ſublime port. He concluded with offering the co-operation of his maſter in doing every thing to diſtreſs that houſe. But all his eloquence was to no purpoſe. He found nothing amongſt the Turks but pacific ſentiments, and the grand ſegnior very readily recognized the election of the emperor. But it is now proper to attend the affairs of Great Britain.

Proceedings of the parliament.

Notwithſtanding the vaſt expence the nation was at in carrying on the war, the parliament proceeded with great frugality in all the branches of national expence. Strict enquiry was made into the expences of the army, particularly the cloathing and the perquiſites of agents, eſpecially thoſe of the marines; and ſome regulations had been made there-

thereupon. Great care was taken to extinguiſh the remains of the late rebellion; but the moſt remarkable execution was that of Charles Ratcliff, already mentioned, brother to the earl of Derwentwater, who was beheaded for being concerned in the rebellion of 1715. Being committed to the Tower, he was brought before the court of King's Bench, where his former indictment and conviction were read to him. Upon this, he denied he was the identical Charles Ratcliff there mentioned, and pleaded he was a foreign officer under the king of France, and therefore refuſed to hold up his hand, or to acknowledge the juriſdiction of the court. At the ſame time, he made an affidavit that ſome of his material witneſſes were abſent, and ſigned the ſame count de Derwentwater. Had it not been for his own imprudent behaviour in the court, and the devoted enthuſiaſm he expreſſed on all occaſions to the cauſe he was engaged in, it was thought his life would have been ſpared. But he had, with an exulting kind of confidence, acknowledged to Williamſon, the lieutenant-governor of the Tower, that he was the identical Charles Ratcliff who had been condemned to die in the year 1715; and Williamſon ſwearing the ſame, he was ordered down to his former ſentence, and proper writs were made out for his execution on the 8th of December. He had the favour of being beheaded, and he died much better than he had lived, but in full conviction of the juſtice of the cauſe for which he ſuffered.

Geo. II. 1747.

P. 200. Caſe and execution of Ratcliff.

The parliament then proceeded to make ſuch acts, as might extinguiſh in Scotland the very means and temptations of raiſing a future rebellion. Amongſt other bills, they paſſed one for taking away the tenure of wardholding in Scotland, and for giving to heirs and ſucceſſors there, a ſummary proceſs againſt ſuperiors; and for diſcharging the attendance of vaſſals at head courts; and for aſcertaining the ſervices of tenants; and for allowing heirs of tailzie to ſell all lands to the crown, for erecting buildings, and making ſettlements in the Highlands.

Another capital grievance and ſource of rebellion in Scotland, were the heretable juriſdictions which prevailed in many parts of Scotland, and deſcended from father to ſon, by which thoſe juriſdictions were entirely out of the hands of the crown. This abſurdity in that conſtitution, had been overlooked, or at leaſt was not provided againſt, by the articles of the union, and was in a great meaſure owing to the nature of their feodal tenures, which gave the great landholders there a kind of juriſdiction independent of their kings. A bill,

Caſe of the Scots juriſdictions.

Geo. II. 1747. bill, therefore, was ordered into the houſe of peers, "for taking away and aboliſhing the heretable juriſdictions in Scotland, and for reſtoring ſuch juriſdictions to the crown; and for making more effectual proviſion for the adminiſtration of juſtice throughout that part of the united kingdom, by the king's courts and judges there, and for rendering the union more compleat." Though nothing in itſelf could be more equitable than the purport of this bill was, or more earneſtly wiſhed for by the people of Scotland, yet, as many of the greateſt families there were poſſeſſed, more or leſs, of ſome of thoſe juriſdictions, which conſiſted in regalities, juſticiaries, ſheriffaltics, ſtewartics, bailliaries, office of foreſter and water baily, coroner or clerkſhips, an oppoſition was made to the bill's taking riſe in the houſe of peers, becauſe many of thoſe juriſdictions were matters of right, and others had been purchaſed and paid for by the preſent poſſeſſors. It was therefore thought, that ſome equivalent ſhould be given to the latter, in caſe the bill ſhould paſs; and that the bill thereby becoming a money-bill, it muſt take riſe in the houſe of commons, where it was accordingly ordered in, and it afterwards paſſed into a law. The reader, perhaps, may be ſurprized, when he is informed, that the ſums claimed from the government, as an equivalent for thoſe hereditary juriſdictions, amounted to upwards of 600,000 l. Several other preventive laws with regard to Scotland and the attainted perſons concerned in the late rebellion, likewiſe paſſed this ſeſſion; but the whole was cloſed by an act for the king's moſt gracious, general, and free pardon.

which the parliament purchaſes.

Act of grace.

Many councils were at this time held at St. James's with regard to the ſtate of affairs abroad, particularly thoſe in Holland, where the party of the prince of Orange had now a great aſcendency, and every thing ſeemed to co operate towards a ſtrict and hearty union between the States General and Great Britain, provided the States could have been aſſured of her ſteady perſeverance in the ſame ſyſtem of public councils, which it was pretended they could not, if the parliament continued to ſit. As the government of England had now effected ſo thorough a comprehenſion of all parties, both without and within doors, they determined, by one bold ſtroke, to remove this objection, and to adviſe his majeſty immediately to diſſolve the parliament, and to leave the people to their choice of new repreſentatives. This was certainly a very wiſe meaſure, as it tended to ſhow all Europe, that the government of England was not afraid to part even with a parliament that had ſo ſignally and ſucceſsfully exerted

Grounds of the reſolution to diſſolve the parliament.

erted itſelf in extinguiſhing a domeſtic rebellion, and in ſupporting, at an incredible expence, a foreign war. His majeſty took the advice, and on the 17th day of June, he made a ſpeech to both houſes, in which, after ſome general acknowledgments of their zeal in ſettling the affairs in Scotland, and in carrying on the war, by which he was able to bring a powerful army early into the field, and to maintain ſtrong ſquadrons at ſea, he proceeded as follows: "The invaſion made upon the territories of the States General of the United Provinces, has had a different effect from what our enemies promiſed themſelves from it. The voluntary and ſpeedy ſuccour which I ſent upon that occaſion, was received with the utmoſt joy, and has been of great uſe; and the ſtates thereupon have not only reſolved on a great augmentation of their forces, which is actually making, but have taken ſuch ſteps, as muſt convince our enemies how determined they are to ſupport their own independency, and the intereſt of the common cauſe. I have the particular ſatisfaction to acquaint you, that the union between Great Britain and the republic, ſo neceſſary for both nations, was never more cordial, or better eſtabliſhed, than it is at preſent." After informing them of the ſucceſſes which his fleets had had, in preventing ſome pernicious projects of the enemy, and extolling the good ſucceſs of their care for the public credit, he proceeded in the following affectionate ſtrain: "As this parliament would neceſſarily determine in a ſhort time, and as nothing would give ſo much weight and credit to our affairs abroad in the preſent conjuncture, as to ſhew the dependance I have upon the affections of my people, I have judged it expedient ſpeedily to call a new parliament. But I ſhould think myſelf inexcuſable if I parted with this, without publickly returning you my thanks for the many eminent inſtances you have given me of your inviolable fidelity and attachment to my perſon and government, and your unſhaken adherence to the true intereſt of your country, and the proteſtant ſucceſſion in my family. By the divine bleſſing, and your vigorous aſſiſtance, I have been enabled to cruſh and defeat the moſt audacious attempts that ever have been made to overturn the preſent eſtabliſhment; and at the ſame time to furniſh that ſupport to our antient and natural allies, which has already diſappointed ſome of the moſt dangerous views of ambition with which our enemies began the war. Such extraordinary merit, as it ſhall always be remembered by me, muſt endear the memory of this parliament to poſterity. From ſuch demonſtrations of loyalty and affection

Geo. II. 1747.

King's ſpeech at the end of the ſeſſion.

of

Geo. II. 1747. of my faithful ſubjects, I do, with the utmoſt ſatisfaction, repoſe myſelf upon them; and do not in the leaſt doubt of reviving new proofs of the ſame diſpoſition in the choice of their repreſentatives. I have nothing ſo much at heart as the preſervation of the civil and religious rights of my people, and the maintaining the true greatneſs of this nation. From theſe principles I will never deviate, and in theſe principles every true Briton will concur. Let this appear by your conduct in the preſent conjuncture; and let no falſe arts or miſrepreſentations take place to interrupt or weaken that harmony between me and my people, which have been, and ever will be, productive of ſuch happy effects."

Parliament diſſolved.

In conſequence of this declaration from the crown, the parliament, on the 18th of June, was diſſolved by proclamation. Orders were iſſued for aſſembling a new parliament, whoſe writs were to bear teſt the 22d day of that preſent June, and to be returnable on the 13th of Auguſt next after. His majeſty in council likewiſe ordered the convocation to be diſſolved; and a proclamation was iſſued, commanding all the peers of Scotland to aſſemble at Holyrood houſe, Edinburgh, on Auguſt the 1ſt next, to chooſe ſixteen peers to ſerve in the enſuing parliament.

Lenity ſhewn to the rebel priſoners.

In purſuance of the reſolution which the government had come to with regard to Scotland, great lenity was ſhewn to all the priſoners who were in cuſtody on account of the late rebellion. Many who had been under ſentence of death, as well as thoſe who were not, were not only diſcharged, but had money given them for their ſupport till they arrived at their reſpective homes. But with regard to others who were yet at liberty, but under the ſtrongeſt ſuſpicion of having been concerned in treaſonable practices, and others who, though under ſentence of death, had ſome mitigating circumſtances to plead, and many who ſtill kept themſelves out of the reach of law, ſuch were excepted out of the general pardon, to the number of 86; at the head of whom ſtood the earls of Traquair, Kellie, and Clancarty. But ſuch was the lenity of the government, that few or none of thoſe excepted ſuffered either in their perſons or eſtates; and moſt of them lived afterwards unmoleſted in their own country.

Diſeaſe amongſt the cattle.

About this time, in England, a diſtemper raged amongſt the horned cattle, that threatened an extinction of the ſpecies. It had begun ſome years before, but was diſregarded too much. At this time, it grew ſo alarming and frightning, that it was brought under a parliamentary conſideration, and the king and council were impowered to employ

ploy what meaſures they ſhould think proper, for putting a ſtop to the diſtemper. Many conſultations were accordingly held, and orders and proclamations had been publiſhed; but ſtill without putting a ſtop to the calamity. The moſt effectual, is that which the reader will find in the notes [a], as the matter, at the time now treated of, became of ſo much public concern, as to claim a place in hiſtory. Geo. II. 1747.

England, at the ſame time, ſuffered other calamities, but of a very different nature. The ſouthern and weſtern coaſts of England had long found it their intereſt to carry on an illicit trade with France, Holland, and the Low Countries. This practice was not only highly detrimental to the revenue, but to the fair trader, who cou d not afford to ſell his commodity ſo cheap as thoſe ſmugglers could. The outcry againſt them at laſt became general, and ſome were bold enough to aſſert in print, that the offenders were protected by certain great perſonages in very high ſtations under his majeſty. Though this was a charge deſtitute of all foundation and fact, yet it is incredible how much it prevailed, on account of the contiguity f the eſtates of thoſe noble perſons to thoſe places where ſmuggling prevailed the moſt. The parties accuſed thought they could not do too much to diſprove a charge of ſo injurious a nature, and were eminently active both in puniſhing and ſuppreſſing the practice to the utmoſt extent of law. Twenty eight of the moſt notorious of them were, purſuant to an act for preventing ſmuggling, required by his majeſty's order in council, and by proclamation, to Caſe of the ſmugglers.

[a] By an order of council, concerning the diſtemper amongſt the horned cattle, any four juſtices or commiſſioners of the land-tax, are authorized to prohibit the holding of fairs for the ſale of cattle within their diviſions, if they ſhall ſee reaſon; of which public notice is to be given. All hay, &c. which infected cattle have breathed upon, and all ſtraw, litter, &c. which they have touched, is ordered to be burnt; and all perſons who have attended ſuch cattle, are forbidden to go to ſound cattle in the ſame cloaths. The houſes, &c. where they have ſtood, are to be cleaned with vinegar and water, and wet gunpowder, pitch, tar, or brimſtone, burnt therein; and no freſh cattle introduced till after two months; and to gather up the dung of infected cattle, and bury the ſame under ground. That for encouraging the owners to comply with this order, they are to be allowed half the value, not exceeding 40 s. for each cow, &c. and 10 s. for the hide and and horns, and not exceeding 10 s. for each calf.

ſurrender

Geo. II. 1747. ſurrender themſelves in forty days. But not one of them having ſurrendered, a reward of 500 l. was offered for each of them who ſhould be taken after the expiration of forty days, and thoſe who concealed them were rendered liable to tranſportation for ſeven years. Some, in conſequence of this great reward, were taken and executed; but many more growing deſperate, went about in gangs, in defiance of lawful power; and where they could not continue their illegal practice of ſmuggling, they robbed, and ſometimes murdered, wherever they went. The evil, at laſt, became intolerable, and ſome doubt ariſing in the act of parliament, the matter was referred to the attorney and ſollicitor-general, who gave their opinion, "That all his majeſty's ſubjects, civil and military, magiſtrates, officers and private perſons, have, by law, without any expreſs warrant for that purpoſe, authority to ſeize and apprehend any perſons aſſembled, armed, and acting in ſuch manner as deſcribed in the laws againſt ſmuggling, and bring them before a magiſtrate, who may commit them to priſon; and in ſeizing, apprehending, ſecuring, and committing them to priſon, may repel force with force, and juſtify any violence or hoſtilities which may be neceſſary to ſuppreſs and ſubdue them, or bring them to juſtice." *In* conſequence of this opinion, his majeſty in council was pleaſed, in June this year, to require and command all officers, both military and civil, to uſe their utmoſt force in ſupport of the laws, and ſuppreſſing, ſubduing, and bringing all ſuch offenders to juſtice.

who are ſuppreſſed.

This order had its deſired effect. The gangs of ſmugglers were every where attacked, both by the civil and military force; and in general they ſeemed to be a ſet of deſperate, profligate villains. All who were taken underwent the extremity of the law, none being pardoned if guilty; and their gangs, in a ſhort time, were effectually ſuppreſſed.

Vigour of the Dutch.

The proofs which his Britannic majeſty had given of his ſincere deſire to co-operate in every reſpect with Holland, had ſoon a viſible effect, by the States General declaring, in anſwer to the French memorial, that they would act by way of repriſals, as the king of France acted towards them; and that they conſequently would cut off, diſſipate, and obſtruct, wherever it ſhould be in their power, all the reſources which might furniſh that prince the means of his continuing the invaſion of the republic with ſuperior forces. A copy of this reſolution was ſent to the council of ſtate, to the colleges of their admiralty, and to the directors of their Eaſt and

Weſt-

Weſt-India companies, ſignifying at the ſame time, that their High Mightineſſes had reſolved to make repriſals upon the king of France and his ſubjects, and to do them all ſorts of damage wherever it ſhould be in their power. Geo. II. 1747.

Notwithſtanding this reſolution, which was immediately begun to be put in execution, was thought equal to a declaration of war, yet the prince of Orange, though the ſtadtholderſhip had been made hereditary, even in the female line of his family, and though he enjoyed it with powers as full, if not fuller, than thoſe of his anceſtors, found his perſonal authority too weak amongſt the principal members of the government, for him to be able to act as he wiſhed to do. Many of the richeſt men in Holland had found the ſweets of public money when they were in power, and they endeavoured to cramp and embarraſs the ſtadtholder in all his operations. But he had on his ſide the ſpirit of the people, who were fully ſenſible of what they had ſuffered from their late taxgatherers; and nothing was heard all over Holland but clamours againſt them. The old magiſtracy, however, retained ſo much of their influence, that the States General, notwithſtanding their vigorous reſolutions, could not be brought to agree to a formal declaration of war, at leaſt, before they ſaw the complexion of the new Britiſh parliament.

CHAP.

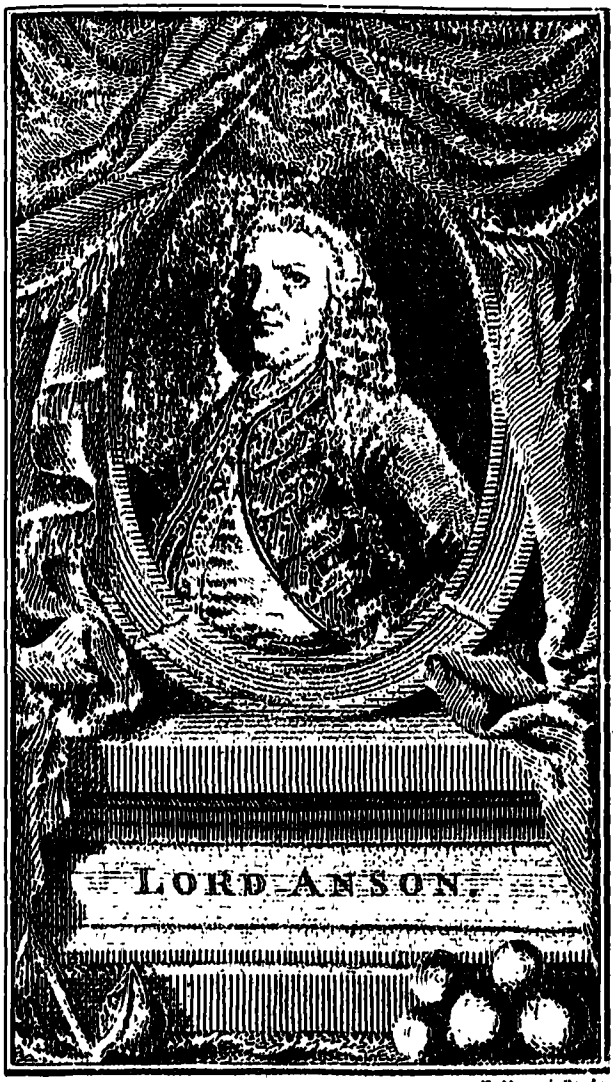
CHAP. X.

State of the new general elections—Secret negotiation by Mr. Wall for peace—King's ſpeech to the new parliament—Grants—6,300,000l.—Scheme for a general naturaliſation—Bill againſt enſuring French property—State of France—Corn allowed to be exported—Affairs on the continent—Ruſſia—Sweden—Pruſſia—The famous Pruſſian memorial and anſwer—Congreſs of Aix-la-Chappelle—The preliminaries—Hiſtory of the proceedings of parliament, and the king's ſpeech at the cloſe of the ſeſſion—Difficulties relating to a definitive treaty—King goes abroad—Regency—The definitive treaty concluded—The march of the Ruſſians countermanded—The peace juſtified—Admiral Knowles takes Fort Lewis—His ſea engagement with the French—Eſtimate of the loſſes between England, France, and Spain during the war—General reflections upon the ſame.

Geo. II. 1747.

General elections.

THE elections all over Great Britain went on with unparalled unanimity, and were attended with very few of their uſual commotions. The landed intereſt appeared to be as ſtrong as ever in the countries, but a ſenſible alteration was found with regard to many of the burroughs. The vaſt ſucceſſes of the war, the prodigious prizes taken from the enemy, and the many great advantages Britain had acquired in point of trade, enriched the marine and mercantile gentlemen to ſuch a degree, that numbers of them were enabled to aſpire to ſeats in parliament, and were ſupported with a greater effuſion of money, than ever had been known to be expended on ſuch occaſions. The miniſter, who was now generally looked upon to be Mr. Pelham, was unable to ſtop the current of corruption which ran in ſome places where he thought the elections were ſecure in favour of the government. He appeared, however, perfectly eaſy, and declared, on all occaſions, that all parties were indifferent to him, provided they were in the intereſt of their country, which ſhould be his only object; and if he exerted himſelf, it was in favour of thoſe whom he perſonally eſteemed, and who he thought would agree to the wiſe and moderate ſyſtem he


LORD ANSON.

he had laid down. In ſome places, the diſaffected endeavoured to revive the influence that had operated ſo powerful in the latter part of ſir Robert Walpole's adminiſtration, and at the laſt general election. But this ſpirit was now ſo very faint, that they who called themſelves the independent electors of Weſtminſter, and who had beſtirred themſelves ſo effectually at one time againſt the government, could not, in that city, which contains upwards of 14,000 voters, get more than 544 to vote for the two candidates they ſet up (who were both of them men of fortune and character) againſt lord Trentham and ſir Peter Warren, who were the candidates recommended by the court. The ſpirit both of oppoſition and diſaffection was found proportionably abated in all other places of the united kingdom; ſo that it was eaſily foreſeen the approaching parliament would be of the ſame temper with the laſt. Geo. II. 1747.

Sir Thomas Clarges, ſir Thomas Dyke, bart.

The court of France, who had early and ſure intelligence of this, every day manifeſted ſtronger diſpoſitions towards peace, and even found means to propoſe to his Britannic majeſty to reſume the conferences at Aix-la-Chapelle. This negotiation was greatly furthered by the preſence of Mr. Wall, a gentleman of Iriſh extraction, and a general officer in the ſervice of the king of Spain, for whom he had been ſome time a private agent or miniſter at the court of Great Britain. This Wall ſoon approved himſelf to his majeſty and the Engliſh miniſtry, to be a man of great penetration and addreſs; nor was he worſe received for the moderation of the ſentiments he brought along with him. He began his negotiation by impreſſing the Britiſh miniſtry with a conviction, that the king his maſter was ſincere in his deſire for peace, from the conſideration of the infinite prejudice his dominions ſuffered by a war with Great Britain. He then attempted to make them ſenſible of the violence and injuſtice which the court of Vienna had been guilty of towards Genoa, at which city he had been before he came to England. He ſhewed them the high improbability there was that the empreſs queen, conſidering the turn affairs had taken in Italy, ſhould be able to ſtand her ground in that country; and that France being now in a manner in poſſeſſion of Genoa, would be able to redouble her efforts there, as his maſter was determined to do, ſhould the war continue.

Secret negotiations by Mr. Wall for peace.

The miniſtry were ſenſible, that great part of what Wall ſaid was true, and they knew that it would be extremely difficult to continue the good alliance between the king of Sardinia and the queen of Hungary, who had mutual com-

Geo. II. 1747. plaints againſt each other. But above all, the unpromiſing proſpect of the confederates in Brabant, with the ſuperiority of the French there, determined his majeſty to nominate the earl of Sandwich and ſir Thomas Robinſon, who had been long his miniſter at the court of Vienna, to be his plenipotentiaries at the conferences, which were to be opened at Aix-la-Chapelle.

King's ſpeech to the new parliament.

The new parliament met on the 10th of November. His majeſty, in his ſpeech upon this occaſion, after repreſenting that he had taken no part in the war, but by the advice of parliament, which he owned had ſupported him vigorouſly, acknowledged, that the ſucceſs in the Low Countries, had not been anſwerable to the nation's juſt expectations; but he took notice of the great ſucceſs his arms had by ſea, and of the happy operations that it had in the government of the United Provinces.

"Some overtures, continued he, for a general pacification, have lately been made to me on the part of France; and though ſome of the terms propoſed were ſuch as could not be approved, yet as I have had no other aim but to bring about a ſafe and honourable peace, I have ſhewn the utmoſt inclination to facilitate it, in conjunction with my allies; and a congreſs is actually agreed to be held at Aix-la-Chapelle, whither the ſeveral miniſters will alſo repair. I hope all the powers concerned will bring with them the ſame diſpoſitions to effectuate this great work, on juſt and reaſonable conditions, which I ſincerely have. In this ſituation, I am confident you will agree in opinion with me, that it is neceſſary to be vigilant and attentive to every event; and that there can be no reaſon to expect a good peace, but by being timely prepared to carry on a vigorous and effectual war. I therefore rely on your hearty and powerful ſupport, to enable me to proſecute the war, in caſe the obſtinacy of our enemies, in not agreeing to juſt and reaſonable terms, ſhould render it unavoidable. For this purpoſe, I am now actually concerting the neceſſary meaſures with my allies, whoſe intereſt I am determined to adhere to and ſupport. Let us be in readineſs, in caſe the negotiations ſhould fail of the deſired effect, to convince our enemies how much they are miſtaken, if they vainly imagine that Great Britain and her allies will ſubmit to receive the law from any power whatſoever; and demonſtrate to the world, that we will decline no difficulty or hazard for the preſervation of the common liberty and our own independency and eſſential intereſts."

In

In anſwer to this ſpeech, the houſe of peers preſented an addreſs, which was moved for by the earl of Hallifax, and ſeconded by the earl of Rochfort, in which they ſaid, "that they ſaw, with the greateſt concern, the misfortunes that had happened in the Low Countries." But in the addreſs of the houſe of commons, which was moved for by Mr. Legge, and ſeconded by Mr. Edgecomb, no notice was taken of theſe misfortunes, but they thanked his majeſty for the ſincere diſpoſition he ſhewed towards a general pacification. "But, ſaid they, if, contrary to our wiſhes and expectation, the enemies of Great Britain, by inſiſting on unreaſonable and inadmiſſible terms, make the continuance of the war unavoidable, we beg leave to give your majeſty our moſt determined aſſurances, that we will ſupport your majeſty to the utmoſt. And in order to convince our enemies of this our ſtedfaſt reſolution, we will immediately grant ſuch ſupplies, as may, in conjunction with your majeſty's allies, enable your majeſty to carry on the war with vigour, maintain the honour and dignity of the crown of Great Britain, and ſupport the mutual intereſt of your majeſty and your allies. At the ſame time permit us to aſſure your majeſty, that we ſhall be ready to contribute our aſſiſtance towards perfecting and rendering more effectual thoſe proviſions, which have been already made for ſecuring the interior peace of theſe kingdoms, and eſtabliſhing your majeſty's throne upon the moſt firm and laſting foundation." Geo. II. 1747. Addreſſes.

No parliament ever ſeconded their profeſſions better than this did. Though it is more than probable, that the ſcheme of a general pacification had been, before the meeting of the parliament, ſettled in the cabinet, yet the preparations for war continued greater than ever. Though the national debt, at this time, amounted to no leſs than 64,593,797l. 16s. yet the new houſe of commons readily granted 8,507,930l. for the ſervices of the year 1748. Out of this money, 400,000l. was allotted to the queen of Hungary, to enable her to ſend her troops early into the field, and effectually to carry on the campaign, and 300,000l. to the king of Sardinia, who was, at this time a great favourite with the court and people of England: 40,000 ſeamen were voted, 49,000 land-forces, and 11,500 marines: 22,000 Havoverians were taken into pay, and the ſum of 167,881l. was voted for the proportion of the ſubſidy for 30,000 Ruſſians, and 150,000l. for their forage and proviſions: 8,620l. was granted by way Grants.

Geo. II. 1747. of ſubſidy to the elector of Mentz; 26,846l. to the elector of Bavaria: 161,607l. was voted for the pay of 6000 Heſſians, and 57,792l. for 4000 of the troops of Wolfenbuttel that were to be taken into pay the 25th of March, and to continue till the 25th of December, 1748. Thus Great Britain, beſides the vaſt ſubſidies ſhe gave to foreign powers this year, paid 122,500 land-forces and marines. A ſum of 235,749l. 2s. 10d. was voted for reimburſing the provinces of New England their expences in reducing Cape Breton. By this laſt vote, the property of Louiſburgh became veſted in the crown, which was looked upon to be a neceſſary meaſure; it being eaſily foreſeen, that the delivering it back to France, would be inſiſted upon at the enſuing congreſs. The claims of the Scots for their heretable juriſdictions, had been referred to the judges there, who had reduced their demand to 152,237l. 15s. 4d. Such a vaſt reduction from the original demand, would, perhaps, not have been admitted of, had not the claimants been given to underſtand that they muſt take it or nothing. The reſt of the immenſe ſum granted, was appropriated to the payment of the Engliſh fleet and army, and to other ſervices ordinary and extraordinary.

Upon this occaſion, the liberality of the parliament fell ſhort of the ſpirit of the people. 6,300,000l. was propoſed to be raiſed on a loan by ſubſcription, to be charged on a new ſubſidy of poundage upon all goods and merchandizes to be imported into Great Britain. Books were accordingly opened for the ſubſcription, and in a few hours the whole ſum was not only ſubſcribed, but 2,000,000l. more than had been required. This raiſed the credit of Mr. Pelham and the miniſtry greatly in the eyes of foreigners, who ſaw with amazement ſuch large ſums eaſily raiſed, after ſuch immenſe ones had been expended for the purpoſes of the war. Some attempts, indeed, were made towards raiſing an oppoſition, and ſeveral pens employed for that purpoſe, but without effect; and the buſineſs of the parliament went on without diviſion, or almoſt debate. The earl of Cheſterfield, however, reſigned the ſeals as ſecretary of ſtate, and his majeſty gave them to the duke of Bedford, who was ſucceeded by the earl of Sandwich as firſt lord of the admiralty.

Scheme for a general naturaliza-tion.

As the miniſtry encouraged every perſon, without diſtinction, to propoſe whatever he thought was for the benefit of the public, a ſcheme was at this time ſet on foot, and was patronized by ſome of the moſt enlightened underſtandings

in

in the kingdom, for a general naturalization of foreign pro- Geo. II.
teſtants, and a bill was brought into the houſe of commons 1747.
accordingly. The arguments for this bill were extreamly
plauſible, as it tended to replace the great waſte of people which the war had made, and to introduce new manufactures into the kingdom, as many induſtrious individuals in foreign parts would be thereby encouraged to ſettle in England. A great many pernicious conſequences were inſtanced, and proved to proceed from excluſive charters and privileges; and the good effects of a univerſal comprehenſion of foreign proteſtants were ſet forth in many elaborate ſpeeches and writings. Notwithſtanding this, the ſheriffs of London, at the bar of the houſe of commons, preſented a petition againſt it in the name of the city, ſetting forth, "That it will occaſion a decreaſe, if not a total loſs, of the duties of packbrought into parliament, age, ſcavage, portage, and balliage of the goods of foreign merchants. That it is more likely to increaſe the poverty, than add to the wealth, of this nation; for that neither the rich nor the induſtrious foreigners need ſuch inducement, as the latter never want encouragement, nor the former the very privilege in queſtion, when they apply for it to parliament. That a like law was attempted in the reign of king William, but was rejected on ſuch national conſideration as it is preſumed can never eſcape the attention nor loſe the regard of the houſe. That an experiment being made by paſſing a law for that purpoſe in the reign of queen Anne, it was found ſo detrimental to the public intereſt, that it was ſhortly after repealed, and not without ſome reflections on the miſchief it had produced. And that as a naturalization cannot convey to foreigners a true knowledge of our happy conſtitution in church and ſtate, or give them ſuch zeal and affection for it as may be requiſite for maintaining and defending it; and as thoſe who have grown up under arbitrary government may be fitteſt to anſwer arbitrary purpoſes, too much caution cannot be uſed in a matter of ſo great importance: and therefore pray the bill may not paſs into a law." This petition was warmly ſupported, and the miniſter, who profeſſed himſelf intirely neutral in the queſtion, began to apprehend that the bill, if paſſed into a law, might be unpopular, and conſequently might hurt the intereſt of the government, which was then very high in the city of London: he therefore dropt. agreed it ſhould be dropt for that time.

The vaſt number of French ſhips which were inſured in England, gave occaſion, at this time, for great clamour; be-

Geo. II. 1747. cauſe almoſt every capture that was made, was either in the whole, or part, refunded by the Britiſh inſurers. A bill, therefore, was ordered to be prepared by Mr. Nugent, Mr. Janſſen, Mr. Walpole, and ſir William Calvert, to prohibit inſurances on ſhips belonging to France, and merchandize and effects laden therein. This bill bore long and warm debates; for many of the moſt eminent merchants in the houſe undertook to demonſtrate, that the nation received (notwithſtanding all the ſums the inſurers paid) vaſt benefit from inſuring French property. The bill, however, being popular and plauſible, though it was afterwards diſcovered to be founded upon wrong principles, paſſed into a law. The royal aſſent was likewiſe given to ſome other bills of great public importance. It was plainly proved at the bars of both houſes, that the French annually drew from the ſubjects of Great Britain 200,000 l. for the ſingle commodity of indigo, and that materials were to be found for manufacturing the ſame in the Britiſh plantations in America. Upon this a bill was ordered in, and paſſed, for the encouraging of making indigo there; and the ſame has ſince been found to be attended with the beſt of conſequences. Another excellent bill paſſed for permitting tea to be exported to Ireland and the Britiſh plantations in America, without paying the inland duties charged thereon by an act of the 18th of his preſent majeſty.

Bill for prohibiting inſurances on French ſhips.

For encouraging the growth of indigo in America.

State of France.

While Great Britain was thus ſecuring to herſelf the advantages of her plantations and the benefit of her commerce, France was diſtreſſed to the utmoſt. Her parliaments and trading companies were daily preſenting to their monarch remonſtrances upon the diſmal effects of his ambition, and repreſenting to him, that all the conqueſts his armies had won, ſerved only to bring ruin to his people, and deſolation to his country. In many places, hands were wanting to till the ground, and in others, all the profit ariſing from the tillage, did not amount to the taxes that induſtry was obliged to pay to ambition. In ſome of their principal towns, the people roſe in tumults againſt their magiſtrates and the officers of the revenue; and the whole country wore a face of famine. As they were ſupplied from England, which at this time abounded in corn, a common opinion ſpread, and made a ſtrong impreſſion upon the public, that it would be proper for the legiſlature to take ſuch meaſures, as might prevent the French from having any ſupplies of corn from England. But when this

this propoſition came to be debated in the houſe of commons, it was found to be deſtructive to the landed intereſt of England, and all further motions concerning it, was, for ſome time, dropt. This created ſome diſcontent without doors; but it ſoon ſubſided, when the public was made acquainted with the immenſe ſums which the exportation of corn had of late years brought into England, which muſt be loſt to the public, without diſtreſſing the enemy, who would be ſupplied by the Dutch and other ſtates. Another argument was urged of great weight, that whatever the diſtreſſes of the king of France might be, it would always be in the power of that king to provide bread for the army, by which means the ſtarving peaſants would voluntarily enliſt themſelves, and the French king would be enabled to keep his armies up at half the expence. Notwithſtanding theſe conſiderations, the Dutch, who pretended they had prohibited all exportation of corn to France, took great offence, that the Engliſh were connived at in making uſe of French paſſports for carrying their corn to France; though it was well known in England, that could they have had the like opportunities, or if they had had the like quantities to ſpare, they would have done the ſame; and the French king left his ports open to their trading ſhips for that very purpoſe; nay, it is certain, that, at this very time, their private merchants were ſupplying the French with all kinds of munitions of war. Notwithſtanding the above, and many other unanſwerable, reaſons for the exportation of corn, the ſecret enemies of the miniſtry ſet their tools once more to work in print, and this was beginning to have a very bad effect without doors, till upon the 26th of January, the houſe of commons reſolved, nemine contradicente, and publiſhed it in their votes, "That the exportation of corn to foreign parts, is very beneficial to this kingdom, and ought not to be prohibited at this time." Notwithſtanding this reſolution, the government took care to clear itſelf from all charge of permitting any kind of traffic or correſpondence between the ſubjects of Great Britain and France: for on the 19th of February, a proclamation was publiſhed, "That all commerce, trade, and traffic to or from France, or any other of the dominions of the French king, and the exportation or importing of any goods, merchandize, or commodities to or from France, or any other the dominions of the ſaid French king, by any of the king's ſubjects, without his licence in that behalf, are great miſdemeanors, and high violations and contempts

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1748.

The exportation of corn allowed.

Proclamation.

Geo. II. 1747-8. tempts of his royal authority, and for which the offenders are liable to ſevere puniſhments by and according to the laws of this realm. And the proclamation ſtrictly prohibited and forbid all ſubjects of Great Britain, Jerſey, Guernſey, Alderney, Sark, Iſle of Man, Minorca, and the town and port of Gibraltar, and of any of the Britiſh colonies or plantations in America, and all other the Britiſh dominions, that they do not, directly or indirectly, carry on any commerce, trade, or traffic, or export or import any goods, merchandizes, or commodities to or from France, or any other the dominions of the ſaid French king, upon pain of the king's higheſt diſpleaſure." The proclamation then declares, that whoever ſhall act contrary to the ſame, ſhould be puniſhed to the utmoſt ſeverity of the law.

State of affairs on the continent.

While this affair was under conſideration of parliament, the expectation of all Europe was turned to the approaching congreſs at Aix-la-Chapelle, there being ſcarcely a power in it which was not intereſted in its event.

Ruſſia.

The court of Ruſſia was, at this time, ſtrongly attached, by inclination as well as intereſt, to that of England, and the forces ſtipulated by the convention between the two crowns, which had received the approbation of parliament, was already begun to be fulfilled ſo ſcrupulouſly on the part of her Imperial majeſty, that inſtead of 30,000, ſhe ordered 40,000 troops to march, to ſupply all deficiencies that might happen through ſickneſs or deſertion upon the road; and ſhe even offered the Britiſh ambaſſador the liberty of picking out from all the troops of her dominions, the men who were to march. There was, however, at this time but little ſtability in her councils; for her great men, who were natives of her empire, took umbrage at the vaſt number of foreign officers and others employed in her dominions; and ſhe was in a manner obliged to diſmiſs them all, particularly general Keith, who had ſerved her and her intereſts long and faithfully; and even the German ſervants of the great duke, ſucceſſor to her empire, were diſmiſſed. By thoſe ſteps, there appeared great danger that her empire was upon the point of returning to its former barbarity, from which it was cleared by her father Peter the great.

Sweden.

The government of Sweden was highly diſaffected to the Britiſh intereſt, and Mr. Guy Dickens, the Britiſh miniſter there, had met with ſeveral affronts, under pretence of his being acceſſary to ſome ſchemes for altering that conſtitution,

ſtitution, for which one Blackwell, a Scotchman, reſiding in Sweden, had been executed. The prince ſucceſſor, tho' raiſed to that dignity by the Antigallican intereſt in the kingdom, having been lately married to the ſiſter of the king of Pruſſia, a woman of as extraordinary accompliſhments as thoſe her brother poſſeſſed, fell in with that prince's views; and the king's age and infirmities ſuffered him to be engroſſed by the French party. Hence it was, that the ſubſidy of France to Sweden, had been renewed for three years, and a treaty, offenſive and defenſive, was concluded between Sweden and Pruſſia. Geo. II. 1747-8.

Pruſſia.

The king of Pruſſia's behaviour was both myſterious and embarraſſing. He ordered an under miniſter at the court of Great Britain to preſent, in his name, a complaint for inſults and indignities that had been offered to the Pruſſian flag, a term that never had been heard of before. He complained of the Engliſh men of war and privateers having unjuſtly ſeized upon ſeveral Pruſſian veſſels, which were ſtill detained in the ports of England. "It is, continued the memorialiſt, in order to obviate this inconvenience, reſtrain the licentiouſneſs of privateers, and prevent their inſulting and wronging the ſubjects of a neutral power, that his majeſty has ordered me to make proper remonſtrances to your excellency, that the commanders of Britiſh ſhips of war and privateers, may be enjoined, under ſevere penalties, to reſpect his flag, leave navigation free to his ſubjects veſſels, without troubling or moleſting them under pretext of ſearch or viſit, and content themſelves with the bare exhibition of the paſſport and other papers. And that the better to ſecure the king's trading ſubjects from the apprehenſions which from paſt experience they muſt naturally entertain, his majeſty the king of Great Britain would be pleaſed to declare, in due form in writing, that he does not intend to hinder or interrupt the courſe of the navigation of the Pruſſian ſubjects to the ports of France and Spain, but that they ſhall be permitted to trade there, on the ſame footing as neutral nations are allowed to do by the law of nations and marine cuſtom." The memorial then requires, that no goods on board Pruſſian veſſels ſhall be deemed to be contraband, but ſuch as are declared to be ſo by the 19th and 20th articles of the treaty of commerce concluded in 1713 between England and France, and by the 15th, 16th, and 17th articles of the treaty of commerce concluded in 1739 between France and Holland.

Subſtance of the Pruſſian memorial.

Such

Geo. II. 1747-8. Such was the ſubſtance of this famous memorial, which the Britiſh miniſtry very juſtly looked upon as captious, and as preſented in order to ſerve the French, and to have a plauſible pretext for with-holding the intereſt of the loan due to the Britiſh ſubjects upon the mines of Sileſia, which his Pruſſian Majeſty had made himſelf anſwerable for. The earl of Cheſterfield, who was one of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, and to whom this memorial was preſented, by his majeſty's orders declared in anſwer to it, "That he never intended, nor ever intends, to occaſion the leaſt obſtruction to the navigation of the Pruſſian ſubjects, ſo long as they carry on their trade in a lawful manner, and conformable to antient uſage eſtabliſhed and acknowledged amongſt neutral powers. That his Pruſſian majeſty cannot but know, that there are treaties of commerce actually ſubſiſting between Great Britain and certain neutral ſtates, and that by means of the engagements formerly contracted on both ſides, every thing relating to the reciprocal trade, is fully ſtated and regulated. That at the ſame time it does not appear, that any treaty of the above nature exiſts at preſent, or ever did exiſt, between his majeſty and the king of Pruſſia; but this, however, never hindred the Pruſſian ſubjects from being favoured by England, with reſpect to their navigation, as much as other neutral nations. That being the caſe, his majeſty takes it for granted, that the intention of the king your maſter could not be to require him to make diſtinctions, or to give the preference to his ſubjects in that reſpect. That moreover his Pruſſian majeſty is too well acquainted with affairs in general, not to know there are eſtabliſhed laws in this government which cannot be departed from; and if it ſhould ſo happen that the Engliſh ſhips ſhould take upon them to do the leaſt injuſtice to the trading ſubjects of the king your maſter, there is a tribunal here, namely, the high court of admiralty, to which they have a right to apply and make their complaints; the judicial proceedings of that court being, and having been, always irreproachable and without blemiſh: witneſs ſeveral examples where neutral ſhips, unlawfully taken, have been reſtored to the proprietors with coſts and damage."

The anſwer.

This anſwer was by no means ſatisfactory to his Pruſſian majeſty, who diſliked the new ſyſtem of affairs that had been adopted between the French the Engliſh and the Dutch. He had no good opinion of the latter, becauſe they refuſed to guaranty

Wars of Pruſſia.

guaranty his poſſeſſion of Sileſia; and though he was upon the reſerve with regard to the quarrel between the French and the empreſs queen, yet he made it no ſecret that he diſliked the march of the Ruſſians through the empire, and that he would declare himſelf againſt that party who ſhould diſturb the peace of it. The cooler he grew towards Great Britain, he naturally drew his connections the cloſer with France. Upon general Keith's leaving the ſervice of the Ruſſians, he was received by his Pruſſian majeſty, who had become acquainted with his brother the earl marſhal of Scotland. This nobleman's father had been a favourite with queen Anne, and ſhe had given lord Keith, his eldeſt ſon, the command of a troop of guards. He was a promiſing young nobleman, but his mother being a Roman catholic, and his father almoſt a declared jacobite, he had entered a little too warmly into the meaſures that had been adopted a little before the acceſſion of king George I. to the crown of Great Britain. By his father's death, he ſucceeded to be earl marſhal; and his troop was taken away from him, upon king George's acceſſion, in a manner, perhaps, that was a little too harſh. This drove him, when he was ſcarcely of age, into the rebellion of 1715, and having been attainted, he had lived abroad with more reputation than moſt of his party had done; for he had neither changed his religion, nor had he ſubſiſted upon a penſion from the pretender. He had ſerved for ſome time in the Spaniſh armies, but being diſqualified by his religion from continuing there, he applied himſelf to civil ſtudies, and had lived for ſeveral years in great eſteem, even with thoſe who were of a contrary party. In the late projected invaſion of Great Britain, he was looked upon as the moſt proper perſon to command the troops who were to act under the name of the young pretender; but he found ſuch wildneſs and inconſiſtency in the councils of the party, that he had in a manner abandoned it; and he was now living in the dominions of the king of Pruſſia, who had ſo good an opinion of his parts, that he gave him one of his orders, and appointed him his ambaſſador at the court of France. This, at ſo critical a time, was thought little leſs than an inſult upon the Britiſh court.

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Account and character of the earl marſhal.

The king of Poland's intereſts, at this time, were but little conſidered, as he had not been extreamly conſiſtent in his conduct. His alliances were great: one of his daughters was dauphineſs of France, another queen of Sicily, and a third

Poland.

electreſs

Geo. II. 1747-8.

electreſs of Bavaria. He had reduced his army, which rendered him more inconſiderable; but he applied to the arts of peace, and made the beſt of thoſe vaſt advantages of ſoil and climate which his electoral dominions enjoy.

Denmark.

The court of Denmark continued to enjoy all the benefits of the wiſe neutrality they had adopted, and had little or nothing either to hope or fear from the approaching congreſs. His Daniſh majeſty applied himſelf intirely to cultivate the arts of commerce amongſt his ſubjects; and though he was far from being ſo intimately connected with Great Britain as the relation he had to his Britannic majeſty ſeemed to require, yet he lived upon a very decent footing with the court of London.

Congreſs of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Such were the ſtate and ſentiments of all the neutral powers in Europe, when the conferences at Aix-la-Chapelle were opened, which happened to be on the 11th of March this year. Though the ſenſe of the principal parties concerning the heads of a pacification was pretty well known to each other, yet a good deal of time, and a great many altercations paſſed, before the following preliminaries could be ſettled.

Preliminaries.

I. "That all the former treaties ſhould be eſtabliſhed, as the foundation of theſe preliminaries, and ſhould be renewed, except in ſuch points as might have been altered by ſubſequent treaties, or in which they ſhould be altered by any of theſe articles.

II. "That all the conqueſts that had been made from the beginning of the preſent war, as well in Europe as in the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies, ſhould be reſtored.

III. "That Dunkirk ſhould remain fortified in the ſame manner as at preſent on the land ſide, but towards the ſea, ſhould be reduced to the condition ſtipulated by treaty.

IV. "That the dutchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guaſtalla, ſhould be left to the royal infant don Philip, but the reverſion ſhould be reſerved to the preſent poſſeſſor, in caſe either the king of the two Sicilies ſhould ſucceed to the crown of Spain, or the infant don Philip ſhould die without leaving poſterity.

V. "That the duke of Modena ſhould be re-eſtabliſhed in all his dominions, or at leaſt ſhould receive a ſatisfaction for whatever could not be reſtored.

VI. That the republic of Genoa ſhould be re-eſtabliſhed in the enjoyment of all ſhe poſſeſſed in the year 1740.

VII. "That

VII. "That the king of Sardinia ſhould remain in poſ- Geo. II.
ſeſſion of all that he had before, and of all he acquired by 1747-8.
ceſſion in 1743.

VIII. "That the king of Great Britain was comprized in theſe articles, in quality of elector of Hanover, and for his electorate.

IX. "That the king of France and the States General would employ their good offices to obtain from the king of Spain ſatisfaction for a ſum of money, which his Britannic majeſty, as elector of Hanover, claimed from his Catholic majeſty.

X. "That the Aſſiento treaty was confirmed for the number of years, during which it had remained ſuſpended.

XI. "That the fifth article of the treaty of London, dated the 2d of Auguſt 1718, relative to the ſucceſſion of the throne of Great Britain, was renewed in theſe preliminaries in the ſame manner as if it were inſerted word for word.

XII. "That the pretenſion of the elector Palatine, for ſatisfaction for the loſſes he had ſuſtained, ſhould be referred to a general congreſs.

XIII. "That the king of Great Britain, the king of France, and the States General, ſhould employ their good offices for diſcuſſing, in the preſent congreſs, the differences that had ariſen on the ſubject of the great maſterſhip of the order of the golden fleece.

XIV. "That the emperor ſhould be acknowledged in his Imperial dignity, by all thoſe powers by whom no ſuch acknowledgment had been hitherto made.

XV. "That the diſputes with regard to the territory of Hainault and the abbey of St. Huberg, ſhould be referred to a general congreſs.

XVI. "That all hoſtilities between the powers at war ſhould ceaſe at land in the ſpace of ſix weeks, to be reckoned from the date of ſigning theſe articles, and at ſea in the time mentioned in an act ſigned at Paris on the 19th of Auguſt 1712.

XVII. "That the reſtitutions, of which mention was made in the ſecond article, ſhould not take place till ſuch time as the parties intereſted ſhould have acceded to this preliminary convention.

XVIII. "That the ceſſions and ſpecific reſtitutions before-mentioned, as well as the eſtabliſhment for don Philip, ſhould be carried into execution at the ſame time.

XIX. "That

Geo. II. 1747-8.

XIX. "That all the parties intereſted in the preſent convention, ſhould renew the guaranty of the pragmatic ſanction in its intire extent, except only ſuch dominions as were already yielded, or were to be yielded, in virtue of theſe preliminaries.

XX. "That the dutchy of Sileſia, and the county of Glatz, ſhould be guarantied to the king of Pruſſia, by all the contracting parties.

XXI. "That all things that had paſſed in the preſent war, ſhould be buried in general oblivion, and every one ſhould be re-eſtabliſhed in the full poſſeſſion of what he heretofore enjoyed.

XXII. "That all the princes any way intereſted in this ſettlement, ſhould be invited to accede thereto as ſoon as poſſible.

XXIII. "That in like manner all the princes intereſted in this convention, ſhould reſpectively guaranty the execution thereof.

XXIV. "That the ratification of theſe preliminaries, ſhould be exchanged within the term of three weeks from the day of their being ſigned."

To this preliminary treaty was added a ſecret article, by which it was agreed, "That in caſe of refuſal or delay of any one of the powers intereſted in the preſent preliminary articles, to concur in the ſignature and execution of the ſaid articles, their moſt Chriſtian and Britannic majeſties, and the lords the States General, ſhould concert together the moſt efficacious means for the execution of what was above agreed upon between them. And if, contrary to all expectation, any one of theſe powers perſiſted in not conſenting thereto, ſuch power ſhould not enjoy the advantages that were procured to it by the preſent preliminary articles. This ſeparate and ſecret article being to have the ſame force, as if it were inſerted, word for word, in the preliminary articles, and ſhould be ratified in the ſame manner."

The confederates take the field.

The preparations for war, notwithſtanding all the appearances of peace, went on at this time with redoubled vigour. By the conventions that had been concluded amongſt the confederates, their army this year in the Netherlands was to have conſiſted of 192,000 effective men; and the Britiſh miniſtry had furniſhed the neceſſary ſubſidies to the empreſs queen ſooner than uſual, that ſhe might ſend her troops the more early to the field. For 150,000 l. were immediately

ately paid in, 100,000l. ſoon after, and 50,000l. was to be paid in a month; but 100,000l. was reſerved to make good deficiencies, ſhould any, which had always been the caſe, appear in the Auſtrian muſters. Geo. II. 1747-8.

But the vigorous ſchemes of the confederates, were in a great meaſure fruſtrated by the conduct of the Dutch. The elevation of the prince of Orange to the dignity of ſtadtholder, had, as has been obſerved, been owing intirely to the ſpirit of the lower people, which the government was unable to reſiſt. But that ſpirit began now to be uneaſy to himſelf, and in fact aboliſhed all ſubordination in the republic. The people of the provinces of Groningen and Friezland, roſe againſt their magiſtrates, and inſiſted upon an abolition of the preſent method of gathering the taxes. They even pulled down or demoliſhed the offices of the farmers of the revenue, deſtroying their books, papers, and regiſters, and the houſes of ſeveral gentlemen, who they thought favoured the magiſtracy; beſides inſiſting upon many other points, particularly an abolition of all that rank of taxe-gatherers called pachters. Being gratified in all their deſires and demands, the ſame ſpirit ſeized the populace in other great towns, particularly Rotterdam, Leyden, Harlem, and the Hague, where the houſes of all the farmers of the revenue were plundered, and their books and furniture deſtroyed. At laſt the city of Amſterdam itſelf was filled with the ſame diſorders; and the popular commotions were underhand favoured by ſome perſons of rank and eminence. State of affairs in Holland.

The prince of Orange was ſecretly no enemy to the abolition of the old methods of collecting the revenue, which in many reſpects were both unjuſt and oppreſſive. But he found the diſturbances had proceeded too far, without his being able to compoſe them time enough for raiſing the money for the public ſervice. It was by no means his intereſt to proceed with ſeverity againſt the rioters, and it was impoſſible, without ſuppreſſing them, for the operations of the war to go on. He lent his name to ſome proclamations, exhorting the people to be quiet till their grievances could be regularly heard and redreſſed. But that method of proceeding having very little effect, the prince ſtadtholder repaired to the aſſembly of the ſtates of Holland and Weſt Friezland, where he, in a ſet ſpeech, made a kind of an apology for the tumultuous proceedings of the people, and adviſed them to aboliſh the farms from that time, and to eſtabliſh in their room, a poll-tax, and ſome other methods, which without Conduct of the prince of Orange.

Geo. II. 1747-8. being burthenſome to the inhabitants, might be introduced with ſucceſs in lieu of the ſuppreſt farms. His preſence and authority had the deſired effect, and the abolition of the farms accordingly took place.

Thoſe diſturbances, and the uſual backwardneſs of the Auſtrians, retarded the opening of the campaign on the part of the confederates ſo early as it ought to have been. Bathiani, the Auſtrian general, pretended to make great complaints at the Britiſh court, that the ſafety of Maeſtricht was not ſufficiently provided for. He propoſed, in the depth of winter, that the confederates ſhould take the field with 70,000 men; 25,000 of which were to be poſted on St. Peter's hill, and 45,000 on the other ſide of the Maeſe, to cover the place; but he was unable to bring the Dutch, who were chiefly concerned in the ſafety of the place, to his ſentiments; and it was unreaſonable to imagine that the Engliſh ſhould ſtill continue to be the only people who furniſhed men, as well as money, for the purpoſes of the war. The Engliſh miniſtry had certain intelligence, that this muſt have been the caſe, had Bathiani's ſcheme been followed; and indeed he preſſed it by order of his miſtreſs, chiefly to haſten the payment of her ſubſidy, or to feel how the Britiſh court was diſpoſed to the approaching congreſs, to which ſhe was averſe.

Promotions in the army and navy.

About this time ſeveral promotions were made both in the army and navy; and the rank between the land and ſea officers was eſtabliſhed by his majeſty's order in council[a]. The prince of Orange having given directions about aſſembling the Dutch troops in the neighbourhood of

[a] Admirals and commanders in chief to rank with field marſhals.

Admirals with their flag on the main-top maſt head, with generals of horſe and foot.

Vice admirals with lieutenant-generals.

Rear-admirals with major-generals.

Commodores with broad pendants, with brigadier generals.

Captains of three years ſtanding with colonels.

Younger captains with lieutenant-colonels.

Maſters and commanders with majors.

Lieutenants with captains.

An order is alſo ſaid to be iſſued, requiring all his majeſty's ſea-officers, from the admiral down to the midſhip-man, to wear an uniformity of cloathing; for which purpoſe, pattern coats for dreſs'd ſuits, and frocks for each rank of officers, are lodged at the navy office, and the ſeveral yards, for their inſpection.

Breda, the duke ſailed from Harwich on the 26th of February for Holland, where he ſoon after landed; and on the 8th of March following, 25 ſail of tranſports, with troops and artillery on board, ſailed from the Nore to reinforce the Britiſh army on the continent. About the ſame time a meſſenger arrived at St. James's with the joyful news that the princeſs of Orange had been delivered of a prince of Buren, which is the title of the eldeſt ſons of that family. Geo. II. 1747-8.

Strength of the confederates.

While the Dutch troops were aſſembling in the neighbourhood of Breda, the duke of Cumberland was collecting his army about Eyndoven; but notwithſtanding the magnificent promiſes of the Dutch and the empreſs queen, neither of them had above 30,000 men in the field at the opening of the campaign, which, with about 50,000 under the duke of Cumberland, did not in the whole amount to above 110,000 men.

The truth is, though the prince of Orange was well affected to the common cauſe, and, in fact, owed his election to it, yet he had, at this time, many powerful, though ſecret, motives to wiſh for a peace. The unſettled ſtate of his family affairs, the powerful oppoſition he encountered in Holland, and the difficulties he found in raiſing money, made him naturally wiſh for an opportunity of eſtabliſhing and confirming his authority. The States General had conſtituted him hereditary ſtadtholder, and captain general of Dutch Brabant, Flanders, and the upper quarters of Guelderland, and he had been appointed director and governor general by the Dutch Eaſt-India company of their trade and ſettlements in the Eaſt-Indies. It was therefore plain, that, by the continuance of the war, he could receive no addition of power or dignity; and upon the concluſion of a peace, that he would be able to eſtabliſh that which he had acquired, upon ſolid and laſting foundations. But above all, he conſulted the ſentiments of the Britiſh miniſtry, which he perceived to be very much turned towards peace. They had nothing to hope for by the continuance of the war, as the French and Spaniards had now very few ſhips at ſea, and they perceived it was impoſſible for them to carry on another campaign at ſuch an expence. Mr. Pelham, in ſeveral ſpeeches he made in the houſe of commons, declared himſelf an advocate for peace, and that it was neceſſary, if the nation would avoid ruin, to alter both the plan and the conduct of the war. Notwithſtanding this, his royal highneſs wanted for nothing that England could contribute towards his ſucceſs; and the council of ſtate in Holland petitioned the States General to pay

The Engliſh miniſtry for peace.

Geo. II. 1748. their quota towards the hire and the march of the Ruſſian troops. At the ſame time, a new placart was publiſhed for further prohibiting the importation of French manufactures, which, upon the whole, amounted to almoſt a total prohibition of all commodities of the growth or manufacture of France.

In the mean time, the Dutch ſent Mr. Van Haren to Switzerland, to ſollicit a body of Swiſs troops to be ſent to the Low Countries, to make good ſuch of their own troops as were priſoners in France, and whom they could not prevail with the French to releaſe. Van Haren made a very fine ſpeech to the Swiſs cantons, and carried his point; tho' it was eaſy to foreſee that little uſe would be made of thoſe troops, or of others, which their High Mightineſſes were contracting for amongſt the princes of Germany. For they had already nominated no fewer than five plenipotentiaries to the congreſs at Aix-la-Chapelle, and all this time the Ruſſian troops under prince Repnin were advancing towards Poland, and a general diſpoſition in that empire appeared in favour of the confederates.

The Ruſſians march for the Low Countries.

Maeſtricht beſieged,

Mean while, general Haddic, an Auſtrian, attacked and defeated a large convoy of the French that were marching to Bergen-op-Zoom, and took about 800 priſoners, beſides killing a greater number. But a detachment from the garriſon of Antwerp coming up, he was obliged to retire. This advantage was publiſhed by the confederates in a very pompous manner, and far exceeding its ſignificancy; for on the 20th of March, marſhal Saxe arrived at Bruſſels, and gave orders for aſſembling the French army. At firſt it was thought they would attempt Breda. They next pointed their march to Luxemburg, but all of a ſudden they made themſelves maſters of the dutchy of Limburg; and Louendahl paſſed the Maeſe at Namur, and advanced againſt Maeſtricht with about 45,000 men, while marſhal Saxe marched towards Tongres. Their meaſures were ſo ſecretly and ſo ſuddenly conducted, that the Auſtrians loſt all their magazines, and were obliged to retire towards Maſeyk, and from thence to Roermond, 25 miles north of Maeſtricht, where they were joined by the main army under the duke of Cumberland. This gave the French leiſure to inveſt Maeſtricht, the ſurrender of which was previouſly, almoſt, as good, as agreed upon between the Dutch and the French, who inſiſted upon it as a ſacrifice due to their glory. In the night between the 15th and 16th of April, the French artillery being come up, the town was invelled, and three attacks were formed; one againſt

againſt the gate of Tongres, another at St. Peter's Fort, and a third againſt the Wyck on the other ſide of the Maeſe, but joining to Maeſtricht by a bridge. It was ſaid at the time of the ſiege, that the defence made by the garriſon was ſo gallant, that the French loſt about 6000 men, beſides 5000 who periſhed by the inclemency of the weather, and other accidents. Chanclos, an Auſtrian general, had thrown twelve batallions into the place, which before had only four batallions in it; and as the Auſtrians were in earneſt to defend it, the ſcheme for giving it up that had been agreed between the Dutch and the French, was greatly diſconcerted. At laſt, however, the ſignature of the preliminaries at Aix-la-Chapelle, procured a ceſſation of arms between the baron d'Aylva, the Dutch governor of the place, and marſhal Saxe, and upon further conſultation it was agreed, that the town ſhould be ſurrendered on the 3d of May, and that the garriſon ſhould march out with the honours of war. Geo. II. 1748. and taken.

Though upon the preliminary articles being ſigned by the Britiſh, Dutch, and French miniſters, the peace was looked upon to be as good as concluded between thoſe nations, yet it met with great difficulties. The king of the two Sicilies made a ſtrong oppoſition at his brother's court againſt the fourth article, by which he was to reſign Naples and Sicily upon his acceſſion to the crown of Spain; and as this affected the reverſionary right which the empreſs queen had reſerved to herſelf, ſhe was equally unwilling to agree to it. The king of Sardinia likewiſe had objections upon the ſame account, and the king of Spain abſolutely refuſed to have any further concern in the negotiation, unleſs ſome mitigation was made as to what concerned the king of the two Sicilies. Thus all Europe was for ſome time in a ſtate of ſuſpenſe; only, upon the ſigning of the preliminaries, by the earl of Sandwich on the part of Great Britain, by the count de St. Severin de Arragon, and by count Bentinck and the other Dutch plenipotentiaries, a ceſſation of all hoſtilities between the troops of thoſe three powers, immediately took place. Difficulties of peace.

On Thurſday the 12th of May, his majeſty declared his intention to leave the kingdom for ſome time, and appointed the following lords juſtices for the adminiſtration of the government during his abſence: Thomas lord archbiſhop of Canterbury; Philip lord Hardwicke, lord chancellor; Lionel Cranfield, duke of Dorſet, lord preſident; John earl Gower, lord privy-ſeal; William duke of Devonſhire, lord ſteward; Charles duke of Grafton, lord chamberlain; Charles duke of Richmond, maſter of the horſe; John duke of Bedford, one The king goes abroad,

Geo. II. 1748.

of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate; John duke of Montague, maſter of the ordnance; Archibald duke of Argyle; Thomas Holles, duke of Newcaſtle, another of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate; Henry earl of Pembroke, groom of the ſtole; John earl of Sandwich, firſt commiſſioner of the admiralty; William earl of Harrington, lord lieutenant of Ireland; Richard viſcount Cobham, and Henry Pelham, eſq; firſt commiſſioner of the treaſury. But it was neceſſary to put an end to the ſeſſion of parliament, before his majeſty went abroad. This he did on the 13th of May, in a ſpeech, by which he informed the two houſes, that a ceſſation of hoſtilities, in conſequence of the preliminaries, had actually taken place in the Low Countries, and in the channel; and that certain periods were fixed for its commencement in other parts of the world. He then expreſſed his earneſt hopes, that his other allies would accede to the preliminaries, and that a general peace might be eſtabliſhed. He obſerved, with great ſatisfaction, that during the whole war, nobody could ſuggeſt the leaſt failure on the part of Great Britain; which not only for the ſake of its own particular intereſt, but of the common cauſe, had taken on itſelf a ſhare of the burthen, unexampled in former times. He then diſmiſſed them with very warm expreſſions of his ſenſe of their duty and loyalty.

but firſt puts an end to the ſeſſion of parliament.

This ſeſſion of parliament had diſtinguiſhed itſelf by ſome farther regulations relating to Scotland, by extending the number of denominations of perſons in public offices there, who ſhould be obliged to take the oaths to his majeſty, and by making ſeveral other ſalutary proviſions for the peace of the country. The ſum of 6,300,000 l. though ſubſcribed for, had not been paid in, and it was therefore thought convenient to enlarge the time for ſome of the payments, which had a moſt excellent effect upon the public credit. Theſe and many other acts of great conſequence, which paſſed this ſeſſion, met with very little oppoſition. But an act, of no public conſequence, for holding the ſummer aſſizes for the county of Buckingham, at the town of Buckingham, created ſome very ſhameful debates and diviſions in the houſe of commons, the ſame being oppoſed and patronized by perſons of family and great intereſt.

Upon ſigning the preliminaries, a proclamation was iſſued at London, intimating the ceſſation of arms, by which it was declared, that ſuch ſhips, merchandizes, and effects as ſhould be taken in the channel and in the north ſeas, after the ſpace of twelve days, to be computed from the 19th day of

Proclamation for a ceſſation of arms.

of April laſt, on which day the preliminaries were ſigned; and that all ſhips, merchandizes, and effects which ſhould be taken after ſix weeks from the 19th day of April, beyond the channel, the Britiſh ſeas, and the north ſeas, as far as Cape St. Vincent, and for the ſpace of ſix weeks more, beyond the ſaid Cape to the equinoctial line, whether in the ocean or Mediterranean; and for the ſpace of ſix months from the ſaid 19th of April, beyond the ſaid equinoctial line or equator, and in all other places of the world, without any exception, or other more particular diſtinction of time or place, ſhould be reſtored on both ſides. The government then proceeded to reduce the public expence, by laying up ſhips, and by keeping thoſe only in commiſſion that were neceſſary till Spain ſhould accede to the preliminaries. In Flanders and the Low Countries, the French and the confederate armies withdrew into quarters of cantoonment; but it was not till the 14th of May that count de Kaunitz, the queen of Hungary's miniſter, acceded to the preliminaries; and that too not without ſome reſtrictions. His example was followed by the marquis Doria, the Genoeſe miniſter, and the baron Sotomayor, the Spaniſh plenipotentiary, and then, gradually, by all the miniſters of the other powers concerned. The miniſters at Aix-la-Chapelle then proceeded, in good earneſt, to the definitive treaty; in which a vaſt number of difficulties occurred, and a great many debates happened. In the mean time, however, the prohibition of commerce with Spain was taken off at London by proclamation. This occaſioned ſome murmuring, as Britiſh veſſels were not admitted into the ports of Spain till ſome months after. In like manner, all other prohibitions in trade were taken off; and at laſt all difficulties being ſurmounted, the definitive treaty, which the reader will find in the notes [a], was ſigned, by the carl of Sandwich and ſir Thomas Robinſon, on the part of Great Britain; by the count de St. Severin and the marquis de la Porthune Thueil, on the part of France; by the marquis Soto Major, on the part of Spain; by the count de

Geo. II. 1748.

[a] I. "That there ſhould be a chriſtian, univerſal, and perpetual peace, as well by ſea as land, and a ſincere and inviolable friendſhip preſerved between the high powers above-mentioned, their heirs, ſucceſſors, kingdoms, ſtates, provinces, countries, ſubjects, and vaſſals, of what rank and condition ſoever they may be, without any exception either of places or perſons. Inaſmuch as the high contracting powers are very aſſiduous to maintain between them and their aforeſaid ſtates and ſub-

Geo. II. 1748. de Kaunitz, on the part of her Imperial majeſty; by don Joſeph Oſſorio and the count de Chavannes, on the part of Sardinia; and by count Bentinck, and the other plenipotentiaries, for the Dutch; by the count de Monzone, for the duke of Modena; and by the marquis Doria, for the Genoeſe.

No

ſubjects that reciprocal friendſhip and correſpondence, without permitting hoſtilities, of what nature or kind ſoever, to be committed on one ſide or the other, on any cauſe or pretence whatſoever, and induſtriouſly avoiding all things for the future that may any ways diſturb or alter that union which is now ſo happily eſtabliſhed between them; and on the other hand, uſing their utmoſt endeavours to procure, on all occaſions, whatever may contribute to their mutual glory, intereſt, and advantage, without giving the leaſt aid or aſſiſtance, directly or indirectly, to any perſons whomſoever, who would willingly hinder or prejudice any of the high contracting powers whatſoever.

II. "That there ſhall be a general oblivion of whatever is paſt during the war that is now finiſhed. And that each party, upon the day appointed for the exchange of the ratifications on all ſides, ſhall be put into the poſſeſſion of all his effects, dignities, eccleſiaſtical benefits, honours and revenues, which they either actually enjoyed at the commencement of the war; notwithſtanding all diſpoſals, ſeizures, or confiſcations occaſioned by the late war.

III. "The treaty of Weſtphalia in 1648, thoſe of Madrid between the crowns of Spain and England in 1667, 1678, and 1679, that of Ryſwick in 1697, of Utrecht in 1713, that of Baden in 1714, the treaty of the tripple alliance at the Hague in 1717, that of the quadruple alliance at London in 1718, and the treaty of peace at Vienna in 1738, ſhall ſerve as a baſis or foundation of the general peace and the preſent treaty. And for this purpoſe, thoſe treaties are renewed and confirmed in the beſt form, and directly as they are herein inſerted word for word; inſomuch that they ſhall be punctually obſerved, for the future, in all their full force and virtue, and be faithfully executed on one ſide and the other, ſuch points, however, as have been derogated from in the preſent treaty only excepted.

IV. "That all the priſoners on one ſide and the other, as well thoſe at ſea as thoſe by land, and the reſpective hoſtages required or given during the war, and to this day, ſhall be reſtored without ranſom in ſix weeks, or ſo ſoon afterwards as poſſible, computing from the exchange of the ratification of the preſent treaty, and that the ſame ſhall be immediately entered upon after ſuch exchange. All veſſels, as well men of war as merchantmen, that ſhall have been taken ſince the expiration of the terms agreed upon for the ceſſation of hoſtilities at ſea, ſhall be in like manner faithfully reſtored, with all their ſtores and cargoes; and ſureties ſhall be

given

No peace ever gave ſo little ſatisfaction, as that concluded on this occaſion. The reader, upon inſpection, will ſee, that nothing definitive was ſtipulated with regard to the commercial intereſt of Great Britain and Spain which gave riſe to the war. Very melancholly apprehenſions were raiſed here in Geo. II. 1748.

given on all ſides for payment of the debts which either ſuch priſoners or hoſtages ſhall contract in thoſe eſtates wherein they had been detained until their diſcharge.

V. "That all the conqueſts that have been made ſince the commencement of the war, or which ſince the concluſion of the preliminary articles, ſigned the 19th day of April laſt, might have been, or were, made, either in Europe or the Eaſt or Weſt-Indies, or in any other part of the world whatſoever, ſhall be reſtored without exception, in conformity to what was ſtipulated by the aforeſaid preliminary articles, and by the declarations that have been ſince ſigned. The high contracting powers do covenant not only inceſſantly to proceed to make ſuch reſtitutions, but likewiſe in putting his moſt ſerene highneſs don Philip into the poſſeſſion of thoſe eſtates, which were agreed to be delivered up to him, by virtue of the preliminary articles aforeſaid. The ſaid parties ſolemnly renouncing for themſelves, their heirs and ſucceſſors, all right and claim whatſoever, by what title or pretence whatſoever, to all the eſtates, countries, and places that they have reſpectively covenanted to reſtore; ſaving, however, and reſerving the reverſion of ſuch eſtates ſo agreed to be delivered into the hands of the aforeſaid moſt ſerene infant don Philip.

VI. "It is determined and agreed, that the reſpective reſtitutions and ceſſions in Europe, ſhall be entirely made and executed, on every ſide, in the ſpace of ſix weeks, or ſooner, if poſſible, from the day of the exchange of the ratifications of the preſent treaty of the eight parties before-mentioned; ſo that within the ſame term of ſix weeks the moſt Chriſtian king ſhall reſtore, both to the empreſs queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and to the States General of the United Provinces, all the places he has taken from them during the war. The empreſs queen of Hungary and Bohemia, in conſequence hereof, ſhall be replaced in full and peaceable poſſeſſion of all that ſhe enjoyed before the preſent war in the Low Countries and elſewhere, except what is otherwiſe ſettled by the preſent treaty. At the ſame time the lords the States General of the United Provinces, are to be put into full and peaceable poſſeſſion, ſuch as they enjoyed before the preſent war, of the towns of Bergen-op-Zoom and Maeſtricht, and of all they poſſeſſed before the preſent war in Dutch Flanders, Brabant, Holland, and elſewere. And the towns and places in the Low Countries, the ſovereignty of which belonged to the empreſs queen of Hungary

Geo. II. 1748. in England on account of the reſtitution of Louiſburgh, which were afterwards but too fatally verified; and the granting hoſtages to France, was highly exclaimed againſt, as being a national diſgrace, though it is certain the thing was not without precedent, even in the reign of the great queen Elizabeth.

and Bohemia, wherein their High Mightineſſes have the right of garriſon, ſhall be evacuated to the troops of the republic at the ſame time. The king of Sardinia to be, in the ſame time and manner, entirely re-eſtabliſhed and maintained in the dutchy of Savoy, and in the county of Nice, and alſo in all the ſtates, countries, places, and poſts taken from him on occaſion of the preſent war. The ſerene duke of Modena, and the ſerene republic of Genoa, ſhall, at the ſame time, be re-eſtabliſhed and maintained in the ſtates, countries, places, and forts taken from them during the preſent war, and this agreeable to the tenor of the 13th and 14th articles of this treaty relating thereto. All the reſtitutions and ceſſions of the ſaid towns, forts, and places to be made, with all the artillery and ammunition found therein on the day of their occupation in the courſe of the war, by the powers which have made the ſaid ceſſions and reſtitutions, and this according to the inventories which have been made, or which ſhall be delivered, bona fide, on all ſides, extending ſo far as to the pieces of artillery, which have been ſent elſewhere, to be new caſt, or for other purpoſes, they are to be replaced with the ſame number, of the ſame ſort in weight and metal; but the towns of Mons, Aeth, Oudenarde, and Menin, the fortifications of which have been demoliſhed, are to be given up without the artillery. Nothing is to be demanded for the money expended on the fortifications of all the others, nor for the other public or private works which have been made in the countries thus to be reſtored.

VII. "In conſideration of the reſtitutions their moſt Chriſtian and Catholic majeſties make by the preſent treaty, either to her majeſty the queen of Hungary and Bohemia, or to his majeſty the king of Sardinia, the dutchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guaſtalla, ſhall, for the future, belong to the ſerene infant don Philip, and be poſſeſſed by him and his male deſcendants, born in legitimate marriage, in the ſame manner and extent as they have been enjoyed by the preſent poſſeſſors; and the ſaid ſerene infant and his male deſcendants ſhall enjoy the ſaid three dutchies, agreeable to, and on the conditions expreſſed in the acts of ceſſion of the empreſs queen of Hungary and the king of Sardinia, to be remitted, together with their ratifications of the preſent treaty, to the ambaſſador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Catholic king, in the ſame manner as the ambaſſadors extraordinary and plenipotentiaries of their moſt Chriſtian and Catholic majeſties ſhall remit, with the ratifications of their majeſties to that of the king

of

Elizabeth. The claims of money of his Britannic majeſty, as elector of Hanover, upon the crown of Spain, mentioned in the eighteenth article, were ſecretly cenſured, as never having been heard of before; and, in ſhort, the popular writings againſt it were ſo vehement, that many, even friends of

of Sardinia, the orders to the generals of the French and Spaniſh troops for reſtoring Savoy and the county of Nice to perſons commiſſioned to receive them; ſo that the reſtitution of the ſaid ſtates, and the taking poſſeſſion of the ſaid dutchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guaſtalla, by or in the name of the ſerene infant don Philip, may be effected at the ſame time, agreeable to the articles of ceſſion, the tenor whereof is as follows: that the empreſs queen of Hungary, whoſe ceſſion was wrote in Latin laguage, in order to diſcharge herſelf of what ſhe was bound to by the preſent articles, in a well grounded hope that their moſt Chriſtian and Catholic majeſties, as well as the party who ſhall hereafter be poſſeſſed of the three dutchies, and his male deſcendants, will actually, and bona fide, fulfil the purport of the articles above-mentioned, doth renounce and quit all manner of claims, rights, and pretenſions to her belonging, under what title or cauſe ſoever, to the ſaid three dutchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guaſtalla, of which ſhe was formerly poſſeſſed; which ſaid claims, rights, and pretenſions, ſhe doth hereby, in the beſt and moſt ſolemn form ſhe poſſibly can, transfer to the ſaid ſerene infant don Philip, and to his male deſcendents lawfully begotten. She abſolves likewiſe all the inhabitants of the ſaid dutchies in general, from that oath of allegiance which they have taken to her; but as to that they ſhall hereafter take to thoſe to whom ſhe transfers her rights, it is to be of force no farther than while the ſaid ſerene infant don Philip, or any of his deſcendants, have not aſcended the throne of the two Sicilies, or that of Spain: for ſhe doth expreſsly reſerve, as well for herſelf as for her ſucceſſors, all the claims, rights, and pretenſions to thoſe dutchies which formerly did belong to her; as alſo the right of reverſion, provided the ſaid infant don Philip ſhould die without iſſue male. The ceſſion of his Sardinian majeſty, which was wrote in the Italian language, imported, that he, by virtue of the preſent act, did renounce, transfer, and ſet over, as well for himſelf as for his ſucceſſors to the ſaid ſerene infant don Philip, and to his male deſcendants lawfully begotten, the town of Placentia and the Plaiſantin, whereof his majeſty was before poſſeſſed, for him to enjoy it as duke of Parma; renouncing, on this account, all claims, rights, and pretenſions to him belonging; but expreſsly reſerving, nevertheleſs, as well for himſelf as for his ſucceſſors, the right of reverſion in the caſes above-mentioned.

VIII. "For the better aſſurance, and the more effectual performance of the ſaid reſtitutions, it

Geo. II. of the government, ſeemed to have very little beſides ne-
1748. ceſſity to plead in favour of the treaty.

Diſtreſſes of France.

The ſame neceſſity operated equally upon France, which, through famine and her loſſes by ſea, was now reduced to the higheſt pitch of diſtreſs. While that continued, the people

it is covenanted and agreed, that they ſhall be duly executed and accompliſhed on all ſides in Europe within the term of ſix weeks, or as ſoon as conveniently may be, from the day that the ratifications of all the eight contracting powers ſhall be exchanged; for which purpoſe, in fifteen days after the preſent treaty ſhall be ſigned, the generals or other perſons whom the high contractors, both on the one part and the other ſhall think moſt proper to commiſſion, ſhall aſſemble at Bruſſels and Nice, to concert and agree to ſuch means for proceeding to the reſtitutions, as ſhall be equally convenient for the troops as for the inhabitants and the reſpective countries; but ſo as that all and each of the high contracting powers may be in intire and peaceable poſſeſſion, without any exception, be it by ceſſion or otherwiſe, within the term of ſix weeks, or as ſoon as conveniently may be, after the ratification of the preſent treaty, of all the ſaid eight powers ſhall be exchanged, in conformity to their intentions and engagements thereby contracted.

IX. "In conſideration that nothwithſtanding the reciprocal engagements by the eighteenth article of the preliminaries, which imports, that all the reſtitutions ſhould proceed on an equal footing, and ſhould be executed at one and the ſame time, his moſt Chriſtian majeſty, by the ſixth article of the preſent treaty, engages to reſtore in ſix weeks, or as ſoon as conveniently may be, from the day the ratifications of the preſent treaty ſhall be exchanged, all the conqueſts he has made in the Low Countries. While it is impoſſible, from the diſtance of the country, that what concerns America can be affected at the ſame time, or the term fixed for its perfect execution, the king of Great Britain therefore engages, on his part, immediately after the ratification of the preſent treaty ſhall be exchanged, two perſons of rank and diſtinction to reſide in France as hoſtages, till ſuch time as they ſhall have a certain and authentic account of the reſtitution of the royal iſland called Cape Breton, and all the conqueſts that the arms or ſubjects of his Britannic majeſty may have made in the Eaſt or Weſt-Indies, before or after the preliminaries ſhall be ſigned. Their Britannic and moſt Chriſtian majeſties bind themſelves likewiſe, upon the ratifications of the preſent treaty being exchanged, to remit the duplicates of the orders given to the commiſſaries reſpectively appointed, to reſtore and to receive whatever may have been conquered, on one part and the other, in the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies, conformable to the ſecond article of the preliminaries, and the declarations of the 21ſt and

31ſt

people were pleaſed with every pacific meaſure; but no ſooner was the communication between them and England reſtored, than, being ſupplied with corn from England, they began to exclaim againſt their government, for having ſacrificed ſo many glorious conqueſts that they had obtained in Europe

31ſt of May, and the 8th of July laſt, in regard to what concerns the ſaid conqueſts in the Eaſt and Weſt-Indies. Provided always, nevertheleſs, that the ſaid royal iſland of Cape Breton ſhall be reſtored, with all the artillery and ammunition which was found therein on the day that it was ſurrendered; and as to the other reſtitutions, they ſhall have their effect, conformable to the purport of the eleventh article of the preliminaries, and the declarations and conventions of the 21ſt and 31ſt of May, and the 8th of July, in the ſame ſtate and condition wherein things were found on the 1ſt of June in the Weſt-Indies, and on the 20th of October in the Eaſt-Indies, and every thing elſe to be reſtored, on the ſame footing as they were before the preſent war begun. The ſaid reſpective commiſſaries, both for the Weſt and thoſe for the Eaſt-Indies, are required to be ready to ſet out on the firſt advice, that their Britannic and moſt Chriſtian majeſties ſhall receive of the ratifications being duly exchanged, and to be furniſhed with all neceſſary inſtructions, commiſſions, powers, and orders, for the more expeditious accompliſhment of their majeſties ſaid intentions, and of the engagements they had contracted by the preſent treaty.

X. "The ordinary revenues of ſuch countries as are to be reſpectively reſtored or yielded up, and the impoſts laid for the ſupport and winter-quarters of the troops, ſhall belong to thoſe powers that are in poſſeſſion, till the day on which the ratifications of the preſent treaty ſhall be exchanged, without its being permitted nevertheleſs to uſe any manner of execution, in caſe they have given ſufficient notice for the payment. The troops to be furniſhed with forrage and utenſils till the time of evacuation; by means whereof, all the powers covenant and agree to repeat nothing, nor exact any taxes or contributions which they might have eſtabliſhed on the countries, towns, and places they have been in poſſeſſion of during the courſe of the war, and that they had not been diſcharged to the time that the events of the ſaid war had forced them to abandon the ſaid counties, towns, and places; all pretenſions of this nature being made void by the preſent treaty.

XI. "All ſuch papers, letters, inſtructions, and archives, as ſhall be found in the countries, lands, towns, and places to be reſtored, as well as thoſe to be delivered up, ſhall be reſpectively delivered, or, bona fide, furniſhed at the ſame time, if poſſible, as poſſeſſion ſhall be taken, or at fartheſt, two months after the ratifications of the preſent treaty of all the eight contracting powers ſhall be exchanged, in whatever place

Geo. II. 1748. Europe and the Eaſt-Indies, and at ſuch an immenſe profuſion of blood and treaſure, for ſo inconſiderable an equivalent as the reſtitution of Louiſburgh. Thoſe reproaches upon the French king and government, were propagated in France with far more freedom than is uſually to be found under an arbitrary

place the ſaid papers or inſtructions ſhall be found, namely, thoſe which had been removed from the archive of the grand council of Mechlin.

XII. "The king of Sardinia ſhall continue in poſſeſſion not only of what he antiently, but what he lately, enjoyed, and particularly of the acquiſition he made in 1743 of the Vigenevaſque, one part of the Paveſan, and of the county of Anglivera, in the ſame manner as the ſame prince now poſſeſſes them, by virtue of the ceſſions which have been made him.

XIII. "The ſerene duke of Modena, by virtue as well of the preſent treaty as of his rights, prerogatives, and dignities, ſhall, in ſix weeks, or ſooner if poſſible, after the ratification of the treaty ſhall be exchanged, be put in the actual poſſeſſion of all the ſtates, places, forts, effects, and revenues which he enjoyed before the war. At the ſame time he is to have the archives, inſtructions, writings and moveables of what nature ſoever, reſtored to him; as alſo the artillery, baggage, and ammunition which were found in the places at the time of their poſſeſſion: for as to ſo much as ſhall appear deficient, or ſhall have been converted into any other form, the juſt value of ſuch materials ſo removed, ſhall be paid for in ready money, which money, as well as the equivalent of the fiefs which the ſerene duke of Modena was in poſſeſſion of in Hungary, if not reſtored, ſhall be ſettled and adjuſted by the reſpective generals and commiſſaries, who are to aſſemble at Nice in fifteen days after the ſignature, according to the eighth article of the preſent treaty, in order to conſult proper ways and means for the execution of the reciprocal reſtitutions and poſſeſſions; ſo that at the time, and on the ſame day, as the ſerene duke of Modena ſhall be put into poſſeſſion of all his eſtates, he may likewiſe enter into the enjoyment either of his fiefs in Hungary, or the ſaid equivalent, and receive the value of ſuch things as cannot be reſtored him; he ſhall alſo, in the ſame term of ſix weeks after the ratifications ſhall be exchanged, have juſtice done with reſpect to the allodial effects of the houſe of Guaſtalla.

XIV. "The ſerene republic of Genoa, as well by virtue of the preſent treaty as of its rights, prerogatives, and dignities, in ſix weeks, or as ſoon as conveniently may be, after the ratifications of the ſaid treaty ſhall be exchanged, ſhall re-enter into poſſeſſion of all thoſe ſtates, forts, places and countries of what nature ſoever; as alſo in all thoſe rents and revenues that it enjoyed before the war; particularly all and each of the members and ſubjects of the ſaid republic ſhall, in the ſaid term after the ratifi-

cations

arbitrary government; and it was thought they originally proceeded from the marſhals Saxe and Lowendahl. Geo. II. 1748.

The queen of Hungary, on the other hand, complained bitterly of a peace, that, notwithſtanding her ſignal ſucceſſes in Germany and in Italy, left her in a much worſe condition Caſe of the queen of Hungary.

cations of the preſent treaty ſhall be exchanged, re-enter into the poſſeſſion, enjoyment, and liberty of diſpoſing of all the funds that they had in the banks of Vienna, in Auſtria, in Bohemia, or in any other part of the dominions of the empreſs queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and of the king of Sardinia, and the intereſt ſhall be regularly paid them from the very day that the ratifications of the preſent treaty ſhall be exchanged.

XV. "It is concluded and agreed between the eight high parties, that for the benefit and ſupport of the peace in general, and for the tranquillity of Italy in particular, all things ſhall remain there in the ſtate and condition they were before the war, excepting, and after the execution of the diſpoſitions made by the preſent treaty.

XVI. "The treaty of the Aſſiento ſigned at Madrid the 27th of March 1713, and the article of the annual ſhip, making part of the ſaid treaty, are particularly confirmed by the preſent treaty, for the four years during which the enjoyment was loſt during the preſent war, and ſhall be executed on the ſame footing, and on the ſame conditions they have been, or might be, before the ſaid war.

XVII. "Dunkirk ſhall remain fortified on the land ſide in its preſent ſtate, and for the ſea ſide, on the footing of antient treaties.

XVIII. "The claims of money of his Britannic majeſty, as elector of Hanover, upon the crown of Spain; the differences concerning the abbey of St. Hubert; the boundaries of Hainault, and the courts lately eſtabliſhed in the Low Countries; the pretenſions of the elector Palatine, and the other articles which have not been regulated, and therefore cannot be inſerted in the preſent treaty, ſhall be ſettled amicably by the commiſſaries nominated on each ſide for that purpoſe, or otherwiſe, as it ſhall be agreed on by the intereſted powers.

XIX. "The fifth article of the treaty of the quadruple alliance, concluded at London the 2d of April 1718, containing the guaranty of the ſucceſſion to the kingdom of Great Britain in the houſe of his reigning Britannic majeſty, and by which every thing was provided that relates to the perſon who takes upon himſelf the title of the king of Great Britain, and to his deſcendants of both ſexes, is expreſsly renewed by the preſent article, as much as if it had been inſerted at its full extent.

XX. "His Britannic majeſty, in quality of elector of Brunſwick-Lunenburgh, both for himſelf and his heirs and ſucceſſors, all his eſtates and poſſeſſions in Germany are comprized and guarantied by the preſent treaty.

XXI. "All

Geo. II. 1748. tion than ſhe was in at the beginning of the war; and the king of Sardinia being diſappointed in his favourite views upon Final, had likewiſe his matters of complaint. Thoſe were the better grounded, as by the uninterrupted march of the Ruſſian auxiliaries for 700 miles towards the Low Countries, the confederates had an almoſt immediate proſpect of relief. Great fault, indeed, continued to be found with their

XXI. "All the powers intereſted in the preſent treaty, who guarantied the pragmatic ſanction, of the 19th of April 1713, for the intire inheritance of the emperor Charles VI. in favour of his daughter the preſent reigning queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and of her deſcendants for ever, according to the order ſettled by the ſaid pragmatic ſanction, renew it in the beſt manner poſſible, at the exception nevertheleſs of the ceſſions already made, either by the late emperor, or the ſaid princeſs his daughter, or of thoſe ſtipulated by the preſent treaty.

XXII. "The dutchy of Sileſia, and the county of Glatz, ſuch as his Pruſſian majeſty poſſeſſes at this day, are guarantied to that prince by all the powers, parties, and contractors of the preſent treaty.

XXIII. "All the powers contracting and intereſted in the preſent treaty, reciprocally and reſpectively guaranty its execution.

XXIV. "The ſolemn ratifications of the preſent treaty, drawn up in good and due form, ſhall be exchanged in this city of Aix-la-Chapelle, between all the eight parties, within the ſpace of a month, or ſooner if poſſible, from the day of ſigning."

To this treaty were added two ſeperate articles, ſigned by the Britiſh, French, and Dutch plenipotentiaries; the firſt of which declared,

I. "That ſome of the titles made uſe of by the contracting parties, as well in the powers and other acts during the courſe of the negotiation, as in the preamble of the preſent treaty, not being generally acknowledged, it is concluded and agreed, that no prejudice ſhall reſult therefrom to any of the contracting parties; and that no conſequences are to be cited or drawn from the titles taken or omitted on any ſide, on account of the ſaid negotiation and the preſent treaty.

II. "It is agreed, that the French language made uſe of in all the copies of the preſent treaty, and which may be uſed in the acts of acceſſion, ſhall not furniſh any example or conſequence to be alledged as drawn therefrom, nor occaſion the leaſt prejudice in any manner, to any of the contracting powers, as they muſt conform for the future to what has been, and may be, obſerved on the part of the powers which are in poſſeſſion, or giving and receiving copies of the like treaties and acts in any other language. The preſent treaty, and the acceſſions which enſue, have the ſame force and virtue as if the ſame cuſtom had been obſerved, and the preſent ſeperate articles have likewiſe the ſame force as if they had been inſerted in the treaty."

marching

marching ſo far by land, as it was poſſible to have tranſported them much ſooner by ſea in Ruſſian and Engliſh ſhipping; but the truth was, that the queen of Hungary was apprehenſive ſhe might want their aſſiſtance againſt the king of Pruſſia in Germany, and neither the Britiſh nor Dutch miniſtry were averſe from putting an end to the war as ſoon as poſſible. In the beginning of ſpring, general Mordaunt and colonel Durand, were ſent on the part of his Britannic majeſty, as commiſſaries to conduct them on their march through Germany. Europe was then in great ſuſpenſe at ſo unuſual a ſight as that of an army of barbarians marching through the heart of the Germanic empire. But, by the excellent diſpoſitions of the commiſſaries, and the inſtructions given by the empreſs, their march was orderly and regular; and when their firſt and ſecond columns were reviewed by the emperor and empreſs of Germany on the 20th of May, they made a moſt promiſing appearance. His Pruſſian majeſty ſaw them march through part of his territories without emotion, being well aſſured of what afterwards happened. For, upon their advancing to the borders of Franconia, his moſt Chriſtian majeſty ordered his plenipotentiaries at Aix-la-Chapelle, to intimate to the Dutch plenipotentiaries, that if the Ruſſians ſhould paſs Egra, he would give orders for the immediate demolition of the fortifications of Maeſtricht and Bergen-op-Zoom. This declaration alarmed the prince ſtadtholder, who immediately communicated the ſame to his Britannic majeſty at Hanover, and he ſent an expreſs to prince Repnin proviſionally to ſtop the march of his troops in that part of Bohemia bordering upon the palatinate of Bavaria and Franconia.

Geo. II. 1748.

The march of the Ruſſians countermanded.

While this proviſional ſtop was making, the affair was left to be diſcuſſed by the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, France, and Holland, at Aix-la-Chapelle. The chief difficulties that occurred in adjuſting it were, leſt, if the Ruſſians ſhould march back, the French king ſhould be prevailed upon to make uſe of his ſuperiority in the United Provinces, and re-commence hoſtilities. On the other hand, the French were not without their uneaſineſs, leſt the Ruſſians ſhould be employed in Germany by the empreſs queen. But all parties being ſincerely diſpoſed towards peace, thoſe difficulties were ſoon removed. A convention was ſigned, by which a final ſtop was put to the approach of the Ruſſian troops, and the French conſented, at the ſame time, to ſend out of the Low Countries, into the interior parts of France, an equal number of their troops, there to be reformed in a month after

They return to Ruſſia.

Date 1 Aug. 2.

Geo. II. 1748. ter the march of the Ruſſians towards their own country. His Britannic majeſty and the States General at the ſame time engaged, that thoſe Ruſſians, who were 37,000 effective men, ſhould not, while they were in their pay, go into the ſervice of any other power.

The peace juſtified.

Though nothing could be more equitable and agreeable, than this convention was, to the ſpirit of the definitive treaty, yet the diſaffected in England raiſed great objections to that, as well as the other ſteps of the negotiation, notwithſtanding the neceſſity of the juncture inconteſtably proved the wiſdom of concluding the treaty. It was plain that the prince of Orange deſired peace for the reaſons already mentioned; and tho' the queen of Hungary and the king of Sardinia might have been glad to continue the war, yet Great Britain muſt have paid them, and have run herſelf into a ruinous expence. It was likewiſe certain, that ſhe could have no motive for continuing the war, as the barrier in the Netherlands was to be reſtored, and as ſhe herſelf was to be put in the ſame condition as when ſhe entered into the war; not to mention the immenſe acquiſitions ſhe had made of commerce and treaſure, all which ſhe was to retain, and which, though veſted in individuals, undoubtedly indemnified her in ſome meaſure for the expence of the war. The reſtitution of Louiſburgh was, indeed, a mortifying article; but the equivalent which England was to have in the Eaſt-Indies, was ſome compenſation, and the miſerable ſtate of the Engliſh troops in the Low Countries, if peace had not been concluded, was thought, by the moſt underſtanding officers of the army, to be ſuch as muſt have reduced it to an abſolute ſurrender, had the French continued to puſh their ſucceſſes with vigour and ſpirit; and that was what both Saxe and Lowendahl promiſed, if the war continued, to effect before the Ruſſians could arrive.

When all theſe circumſtances are conſidered, it muſt be candidly owned, that, beſides reſtoring the barrier to the empreſs queen and the Dutch, the ſacrifices which France made by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle were amazing.

View of [illegible]

But a very ſhort time unveiled the myſtery, which was no other, than that France had agreed to all thoſe compliances, that ſhe might be in a condition to ſtrip Great Britain of all her moſt important intereſts. For as ſoon as Maurepas carried the great point of reſtoring peace, he ſet about his marine plans with incredible ſucceſs and diligence. Beſides the meaſures uſed, as ſhall be related, for depriving the Engliſh of their moſt valuable poſſeſſions in North America, he applied

plied to the moſt vigorous means of rendering France ſuperior to Great Britain upon the ocean. He contracted for naval ſtores with Sweden, Denmark, Dantzick, Hamburgh, and all the northern powers who could furniſh them. In the ports of the ocean, orders were given for building eighteen ſhips of the line, and ſix at Toulon, beſides repairing and refitting all the old men of war. Ten ſhips of the line were built in Sweden for the ſervice of France, and contracts were made for building eighteen more, beſides orders for putting ſome upon the ſtocks in North America. Though thoſe orders were not executed within the year now treated of, yet the reader will, from what happened a very few years after, be ſenſible of the propriety of mentioning them in this place. But it is now time to attend the naval operations of England in other parts of the globe, in the American ſeas, particularly. Geo. II. 1748.

The reader has ſeen the ſtate of naval affairs between England and France in America towards the end of the year 1746. Vice-admiral Knowles was then governor of Cape Breton, where he lay with a ſquadron. Many complaints were brought to him of the barbarity of the French, who encouraged the Indians in committing all kind of cruelties upon the Engliſh. About 3000 Canadeans, in the ſummer of 1747, being diſappointed of ſuccours from France, abandoned the deſign they had to beſiege Annapolis, and returned to Canada; from whence they invaded Albany, but were repulſed by colonel Shuyler, an Engliſh officer. But the government of Great Britain, laying aſide their deſign againſt Canada, which had been ſo much talked of the year before, was a great detriment to the Engliſh intereſt in North America. The native Indians there, generally form their connections with the Europeans according to the opinion they have of their power; and in that reſpect the French had vaſt advantages over the Engliſh by means of their miſſionaries, a ſet of men educated in all the arts of working upon the fears, the paſſions, and the prejudices of thoſe ſavages. The Engliſh, on the other hand, were in that important reſpect extreamly indolent: their clergymen ſent to America were generally ſuch as, thro' their vices or ignorance, could not earn a living in their own country; and no kind of application was given by them to win over the Indians. Sometimes, indeed, a pompous interview between the Engliſh governors and ſome chiefs of the native Indians was held, and attended with preſents to the ſavages, who commonly, upon ſuch occaſions, promiſed great things in favour of the Engliſh. But the impreſſions which

Page 280. Admiral Knowles governor of Louiſburgh.

The power of the French in America.

Geo. II. 1748.

ſuch interviews made upon their minds, were, by the arts of the French miſſionaries ſoon worn off; and they encouraged them to continue a deceitful intercourſe with the Engliſh, only to cheat and to amuſe them.

owing to miſſionaries.

Upon the occaſion now mentioned, the miſſionaries got a great aſcendency over the minds of the ſavages, by repreſenting the laying aſide the expedition againſt Canada, which had made a great noiſe even amongſt the Indians themſelves, as proceeding from puſilanimity and want of power; and the miſſionaries from thoſe, and other, ſuggeſtions, found means to gain them over to the French intereſt. As a bait to their avarice, as well as cruelty, 3l. ſterling was given by the French for every ſcalp of an Engliſhman that thoſe barbarians could bring in. Mr. Shirley, governor of the Maſſachuſets company, and Mr. Clinton, governor of New York, had orders to make preſents to the Twigtees, a conſiderable nation of the Indians, who had ſhown diſpoſitions of fidelity to the Britiſh nation; and they renewed the antient league with the Iroquois, who were an aſſemblage of ſeveral powerful clans; and this liberality procured a temporary reſpite from their barbarities.

In other parts of the American ſeas, nothing material happened, the Engliſh being ſuperior to the power of France and Spain. But a vaſt number of valuable prizes, from both nations, ſtill continued to be made by the Britiſh ſhips of war and privateers. Rear-admiral Knowles was ordered to take upon him the command of the Britiſh ſquadron at Jamaica, which conſiſted of the following ſhips of the line: Cornwall, Plymouth, Elizabeth, Canterbury, Strafford, Warwick, Worceſter, and Oxford, with the Weaſel and Merlin ſloops. He had formed a deſign to attack St. Jago de Cuba, but finding the winds to continue northerly, he found it impoſſible to approach that coaſt; and having on board a detachment of 240 men from Trelawney's regiment, he reſolved to make an attempt upon Port Louis, a French ſettlement on the ſouth ſide of Hiſpaniola. This attack was made ſo fortunately on the 8th of March, that the French commandant of the fort agreed to capitulate, and actually gave it up. The admiral found in it 78 guns mounted, moſtly 42, 36, and 28 pounders, with five mortars; and in the harbour he took poſſeſſion of three ſhips, a ſnow, and three privateer ſloops; and he blew up the fort. The loſs of the Engliſh upon this occaſion was about 70 men killed and wounded, but amongſt the former were captain Renton of the Strafford man of war, and captain Cuſt, who ſerved

Knowles takes Port Louis.

as

as a volunteer in the expedition. The conqueſt of this place, which in itſelf was but inconſiderable, was only valuable, as it had ſerved for a recepticle to the French privateers during the war. After the reduction of Port Louis, admiral Knowles, in conſequence of his firſt plan, ſailed againſt St. Jago de Cuba, where his ſquadron arrived on the 5th of April. This town is ſituated at the bottom of a bay, or harbour, the entrance of which is narrow, and commanded by a fort. Captain Dent, of the Plymouth, who had the command of the ſquadron before Knowles took it upon himſelf, inſiſted upon its being his right, as ſenior captain, to go firſt into the harbour; and he made the attempt, in which he was ſeconded by the Cornwall. But the mouth of the harbour was found to be ſo guarded by a chain and fireſhips, beſides two other large ſhips, that the attempt, after ſome loſs to the Engliſh, was judged to be impracticable, and as ſuch was given over. Knowles threw the blame of this miſcarriage upon Dent, who was afterwards tried for it in England, and honourably acquitted. Geo. II. 1748. Fails before St. Jago.

The conqueſt of Port Louis was of great ſervice to the Jamaica trade, while commodore Pocock protected that of the Caribbee iſlands, and blocked up the French ſquadron at Martinico. Nothing remarkable, however, happened till the month of September, when admiral Knowles, who was cruizing off Tortuda's bank, to intercept the Spaniſh annual plate fleet, which was daily expected at the Havanna from La Vera Cruz, was attacked by the Spaniſh fleet, under the admirals Regio and Spinolo. The latter had been diſcovered by captain Holmes in the Lenox, a ſhip of 70 guns, but at that time carrying 56, who had under his convoy 14 merchantmen from Jamaica, who made the beſt of their way to ſave themſelves, while Holmes joined Knowles. The Britiſh ſquadron, on this occaſion, conſiſted of the following ſhips: Cornwall, Lenox, Tilbury, Strafford, Warwick, Canterbury, and Oxford. The ſtrength of the Spaniſh ſquadron conſiſted in the whole of about 440 guns, which gave them a ſuperiority of 14 guns over the Britiſh: but the Spaniards were ſaid to have on board 4,150 men, and the Britiſh no more than 2,900. The diſpoſition made by Knowles for the engagement, was generally allowed to be judicious. He placed the Tilbury and the Strafford in the van, the Cornwall and the Lenox in the center, and the Warwick and Canterbury in the rear, while the Oxford was ordered to lie out of the line. It was judged, however, that Knowles, who had the advantage of the wind, might have begun the His engagement with a Spaniſh ſquadron.

Geo. II. 1748. attack ſooner than he did, by which all his ſhips could have acted with full effect againſt the enemy; but by delaying the attack till two in the afternoon, the Warwick and the Canterbury were too far aſtern to fire a ſhot for two hours. Knowles engaged the Spaniſh admiral in the Cornwall of 80 guns, but was ſo roughly handled, that he was obliged to fall aſtern of his own ſquadron, and was unable, for ſome time, to come again into action. The Conqueſtadore, a Spaniſh ſhip of 64 guns, met with much the ſame fate: but Knowles having refitted his ſhip, bore down upon the Conqueſtadore, and took her. In the mean while, the Lenox, captain Holmes, ſupplied the poſt which Knowles had been obliged to abandon; but having the fire of three Spaniſh ſhips upon him, he muſt have been ſunk or taken, had not the Warwick and Canterbury, who had been obliged hitherto to be inactive, ſeaſonably relieved him. The engagement now begun to be very hot, and the Spaniards were obliged to bear away towards the Havannah; but the Africa, their admiral's ſhip, was ſo terribly handled in the engagement, that ſhe run aſhore, and was blown up by her own crew, to prevent her falling into the hands of the Engliſh. The loſs of the Spaniards in men, beſides that of their two ſhips, was ſaid to be about 200, and that of the Engliſh no more than 60.

After the engagement, the Engliſh paraded before the Havannah, in hopes that the Spaniſh plate fleet, which was immenſely rich, would ſtill fall in with them. But inſtead of that, they took a Spaniſh advice-boat, by which they received the news of the preliminaries being ſigned at Aix-la-Chapelle, and of the ceſſation of hoſtilities. This information damping all the ſanguine hopes of the officers and crews of the Engliſh ſquadron, they began to impeach one another of miſbehaviour in the late action. Thoſe diſguſts continued till they came to England, where Knowles was brought before a court-martial, and received a gentle reprimand for not ſhifting his flag on board another ſhip when he found his own diſabled, and for not beginning the engagement more early. Captain Holmes was tried, and honourably acquitted; and ſome other officers were brought to trial. But captain Clark of the Canterbury, and captain Innes of the Warwick, retained ſuch reſentment againſt one another, that Innes challenged Clark to fight him in ſingle duel, and was ſhot dead upon the ſpot. Though Clark was tried and condemned for this fact, yet it was generally thought he had acted as a man of honour; and his majeſty was pleaſed to give him a pardon.

Captain Innes killed.

This

This was the laſt action of any conſequence during the war. In the Mediterranean, admiral Byng continued to command the Britiſh ſquadron, and took ſome ſmall barks laden with proviſions and ammunition for Genoa. But he received a letter from his grace the duke of Newcaſtle, dated the 11th of July, acquainting him, that the king's intention was, that all hoſtilities ſhould ceaſe in Italy, and that as ſoon as he ſhould receive that letter, he ſhould ſend orders to the commanders of all the Britiſh ſhips in the Mediterranean not to commit any more hoſtilities againſt the ſubjects of France, Spain, and Genoa. The admiral, at the ſame time, was ordered to return to England, which he did about the middle of October, having left ſeven ſhips in the Mediterranean, which were ſoon after reinforced by ſix ſhips more. Geo. II. 1748.

Admiral Byng ordered to diſcontinue hoſtilities.

But notwithſtanding all the care of the parties concerned, many ſhips were taken on both ſides, after the time preſcribed by the treaty; which made it neceſſary for the plenipotentiaries at Aix-la-Chapelle to enter into a new convention for commiſſaries to meet at St. Maloes, to regulate all matters of that kind, and to order the proper reſtitutions to be made. Upon ballancing all accounts it was found, that during the courſe of the war, the Spaniards had loſt 1,249 ſhips, and the French 2,185; the whole amounting to 3 434; while the whole of the Engliſh ſhips, taken both by the French and Spaniards, amounted to but 3,238: but the value of the French and Spaniſh ſhips being far ſuperior to that of the Engliſh in general, it was computed that the latter, upon the whole, were gainers upwards of 2,000,000 l.

Superiority of the Engliſh in the war by ſea.

Thus, after an immenſe expence of blood and treaſure, ended a war in which Great Britain and France, the principal parties in it, gained nothing but the experience of each others ſtrength and power. France perceived the riches and the perſeverance of Great Britain to be much greater than ſhe had imagined; and Great Britain grew ſenſible, that the power of France, acting in the Low Countries and in her own neighbourhood, was irreſiſtible. The main queſtion for which the war was originally entered into, which was the commercial diſputes between Spain and Great Britain in the Weſt-Indies, ſeemed to have been dropt, and mentioned in the treaty only for form ſake, while each of thoſe nations, though mutually weakened, found themſelves in the very ſame condition they were in before the war. The ſober, ſenſible part of the people of England, began now to ſpeak with reverence of the earl of Orford's pacific adminiſtration, and thoſe who had been his greateſt enemies, ſeemed

General reflections upon the war.

Geo. II. 1748. at a loſs to account, for the reaſons, why the war had been entered into. The royal family of Spain, had, in a moſt unaccountable and unheard of manner, after a very unproſperous campaign, obtained a ſettlement for one of her ſons, while the other, the king of Naples, was cultivating the arts of peace in his dominions by a wiſe neutrality, for which he was glad to have ſo juſtifiable a pretext as the dread of a Britiſh ſquadron. The ſpirit of the Genoeſe, which had brought about that amazing revolution in Italy, was admired in Great Britain and encouraged by France, who, upon the death of the duke of Bouffleurs, ſent the duke of Richlieu to command the Auſtrians, at the very time when the implacable queen of Hungary was upon the point of again enſlaving them. But notwithſtanding all the reinforcements of men and money furniſhed them by France, they muſt have been ruined, had it not been for the critical ſignature of the preliminaries. The empreſs queen, by her own obſtinacy, hazarded all, and loſt a great deal. From the very commencement of the war, ſhe purſued an intereſt ſeparate from that of Great Britain, who had ſo generouſly ſaved and ſupported her; and ſhe was even ungenerous enough, at times, to cauſe her miniſters and emiſſaries in England, to appeal from the government to the people, whoſe paſſions, during the time of her diſtreſs, and indeed during the whole courſe of the war, were wonderfully heated in her favour. The firmneſs of the king of Sardinia, extricated him out of thoſe difficulties and dangers into which the war had brought him; but upon the whole, he was no gainer either by the war or the peace. The connections which his miniſter, Oſſorio, who was called a ſecond Gondamar, had formed in the cabinet of England, were looked upon to be dangerous to the intereſts of Great Britain, and tending only to prolong a war, in which ſhe had nothing to expect, and which, whether ſucceſsful or not, muſt plunge her into ruinous expences. It was thought, and perhaps with great reaſon, that had the treaty of Worms been executed, and had he been put in poſſeſſion of Final, he might, at one time or other, have become too powerful by ſea in the Mediterranean; and that the right maxims of policy dictated, that the poſſeſſion of that port ſhould remain with the Genoeſe. The king of Pruſſia, in like manner, found himſelf in the very condition he was in after the treaty of Breſlau, and that he retained an unſteady, uncertain, poſſeſſion of Sileſia. The king of Poland, as elector of Saxony, had been once a party in the war; but his meaſures being entirely under the influence of his miniſter, nothing certain could be pronounced with regard

gard to the ſyſtem of his conduct, though his family connec- Geo. II.
tions had been powerfully ſtrengthened during the courſe of 1748.
the war. It was, however, generally believed, that it had
impoveriſhed him greatly, and that he had entered into ſe-
cret meaſures with the houſe of Auſtria to be indemnified,
at the expence of ſome of his neighbours. The other prin-
ces of Germany were in the ſame undeſirable ſituation; they
were weakened to no purpoſe; they had ſhown no ſteadi-
neſs of conduct, and had acted upon no principle but what a
little temporary intereſt dictated. The conduct of the Dutch,
from the beginning of the war, had been poor and puſilani-
mous, if not treacherous. Their government, for fear of
the people, had not reſolution to declare for an abſolute neu-
trality, and for fear of France, they declined entering hear-
tily as principals into the war. By this conduct, they ſpent
immenſe ſums, without advantage to themſelves or to the
common cauſe, which, in fact, was injured by the backward-
neſs of their generals, and the frowardneſs of their troops.
Upon the whole, no hiſtory can produce any inſtance of a
war ſo wantonly entered into, ſo ruinouſly purſued, and ſo
fruitleſsly concluded, as that of which we now cloſe the
hiſtory.

CHAP. XI.

Caſe of the young pretender—He is forced out of France—Return of the king to England—His ſpeech at the opening of the parliament—State of the oppoſition—Proceedings of parliament—Vaſt debt contracted by the war—Debates thereon—Caſe of the city of Glaſgow—Debates upon the navy and the mutiny acts—Caſe of the American paper-credit money—Bill for altering the trade to Africa—For encouraging the Britiſh fiſhery—For the Hudſon's Bay trade—Settlement of Tobago attempted by the French, but diſowned by their court—Motions in parliament—Riots in Oxford—Duke of Newcaſtle choſen chancellor of the univerſity of Cambridge—Nova Scotia ſettled—Rejoycings for the peace—Tumults and other occurrences in England—State of affairs on the continent—Opening of the parliament—The national intereſt reduced—The Britiſh fiſhery and other popular bills paſt—Weſtminſter election of members.

Geo. II. 1748.

THE concluſion of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, was extreamly agreeable to the people of England, who had great reaſon to be heartily tired of the war. The duke of Newcaſtle, and his brother Mr. Pelham, were generally looked upon as the adviſers of it on the part of Great Britain; and the duke, as one of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, had this year attended his majeſty to Hanover, where he made a figure ſuitable to the high ſtation he held in his majeſty's councils. The ſecret motives which France had in concluding a peace ſeemingly ſo much to her own diſadvantage, and which have been already mentioned, were as yet not publicly known; but that court gave the ſtrongeſt indications of its diſpoſition to maintain and improve it. The young pretender ſtill continued at Paris. His agents had offered a proteſt at Aix-la-Chapelle during the time of the treaty, which had been rejected with ignominy; and an intimation was made to himſelf, that after the concluſion of the peace, it would be very improper for his moſt Chriſtian majeſty to ſuffer him to reſide in his dominions. He ſeemed

The young pretender's caſe.

to

to receive this intimation with great indifference, and ſome diſreſpect. When it was repeated to him, he flatly told the duke de Geſvers, that it was not in his maſter's power, conſiſtently with his engagements, to order him out of his dominions; and he actually put the French king to a kind of defiance. Geo. II. 1748.

There appears to have been ſome truth in what the young pretender alledged; for the French king, inſtead of contradicting it, ſent him a ſoothing letter, under his own hand, to perſuade him to retire out of his dominions. His ambaſſador in Switzerland had orders, at the ſame time, to apply to the canton of Friburgh, in the moſt earneſt manner, that they would grant the young adventurer a refuge in their dominions; which they actually agreed to, notwithſtanding all the remonſtrances of Mr. Burnaby, the Britiſh miniſter, whom the canton treated pretty roughly upon this occaſion. But though the French king had accompliſhed this point, and offered Charles a penſion ſufficient to live upon with ſplendor, all was to no purpoſe. He abſolutely refuſed to depart from France; and even after the arrival of the earl of Suſſex and lord Cathcart, who were ſent as the Britiſh hoſtages at Paris, he appeared publickly on all occaſions, and he affected to be treated in their preſence with the diſtinctions he had aſſumed. The two noblemen complained of this to the French king, who applied to the old pretender at Rome; and he wrote to his ſon a very ſevere, yet affectionate, letter, blaming the folly of his conduct, and adviſing him to leave the dominions of France. Charles, after he had received this letter, continued obſtinate, and appeared with a kind of exulting air in all public places. He even affected the manners of Charles XII. of Sweden; and his followers gave out, that if any force was offered to him, he was reſolved to defend himſelf to the laſt extremity. The common people of Paris took his part, which gave the court ſome apprehenſions of an inſurrection in his favour. Upon this the French king had recourſe to more ſerious meaſures: he ordered a large body of his guards under arms, and Charles was ſuddenly ſeized, and made priſoner, in ſteping out of his coach into the opera-houſe, and from thence conducted, tied with a cord like a common felon, to Vincennes; from whence he was ſent with a guard out of the kingdom.

He is impriſoned, and ſent out of France.

This ignominious treatment of one whom the people of France looked upon to be the lineal deſcendant of their beloved Henry IV. was conſidered as a ſacrifice to the glory of England. Reciprocal compliments paſſed between the two courts; and

Geo. II. 1748. and the earl of Albemarle was appointed ambaſſador extraordinary to the French king, as the marquis de Mirepoix was to his Britannic majeſty. The reſort of the Engliſh to France, and the French to England, was greater than ever had been known; and a general opinion prevailed, that the peace between the two nations was now eſtabliſhed upon a durable foundation. It would be entering into a too minute and unintereſting detail, to recount the particulars of all the meaſures taken in England for recalling her troops from the continent, and reſtoring her communications with the ſeveral powers ſhe had been at war with: all was regularly effected, without any remarkable event happening.

His majeſty's progreſs in Germany. In the mean while, his majeſty was viſiting the moſt remarkable places of his electoral dominions, and was received through them all with raptures of joy. He had lately eſtabliſhed a univerſity at Gottingen, which he had the ſatisfaction to ſee in a flouriſhing condition, and giving education to ſome deſcendants of the unhappy noblemen who had been concerned in the late rebellion, and who, notwithſtanding the incapacity of their fathers, were entitled to ſucceed to very high honours and great eſtates. It was the 23d of November before he arrived in England, after a tedious and dangerous paſſage. He landed at a place called Kingſgate, about four miles from Margate in Kent; and upon his arrival at London, he was complimented by that city, as being the founder and father of the peace that had been ſo lately reſtored to Europe. In his anſwer to their addreſs, which was very warm and dutiful, he told the lord mayor and aldermen, that his great care had been, in the re-eſtabliſhment of the public peace, to make effectual proviſion for the ſecurity of the trade and commerce of his ſubjects.

He returns to England.

The parliament opens. On the 29th of November, the ſecond ſeſſion of the Britiſh parliament was opened by his majeſty in a ſpeech, in which he acquainted the two houſes of the definitive treaty of peace being ſigned by all parties concerned; that he had made the moſt effectual proviſion for ſecuring the rights and intereſts of his own ſubjects, and to procure the beſt terms and conditions for his allies, that the ſituation of things could admit of; and, continued he, "I take much ſatisfaction in being able to tell you, that I have found a general good diſpoſition in all parties engaged in the war, to bring this negotiation to a happy concluſion. From theſe circumſtances, we may promiſe ourſelves, under God, a long enjoyment of the bleſſings of peace, provided we make the right uſe and improvement of it." Then addreſſing himſelf to the houſe

of

of commons, he continued as follows: "As great a progreſs has been made towards the reducing the public expences, as the nature of the caſe would allow; and I only deſire you to grant me ſuch ſupplies, as may be requiſite for the current ſervice of the year, for your own ſecurity, and for making good ſuch engagements as have been already entered into, and laid before you. Times of tranquillity are the times to leſſen the national debt, and ſtrengthening ourſelves againſt future events; and as the neceſſary meaſures for theſe purpoſes, I muſt recommend to you the improvement of the public revenue, and the maintaining our naval force in proper ſtrength and vigour." Geo. II. 1748. His majeſty's ſpeech.

He then recommended it to both houſes, to make thoſe brave men, who had ſerved well by ſea and land, and could be no longer employed, objects of their favour and protection; and recommended to them the advancement of commerce, and the cultivating the arts of peace.

The motion for an addreſs of thanks was made in the houſe of peers by the earl of Powis, and being ſeconded by the earl Kildare, paſſed without any diviſion. It was, as uſual, full of duty and loyalty, and it approved highly of his majeſty's conduct. In the houſe of commons, the addreſs was moved for by lord Barrington, and ſeconded by Mr. Yorke, eldeſt ſon to the lord chancellor. The reader is to obſerve, that by this time, a great miſunderſtanding had broken out between his majeſty's court and that of the prince of Wales, whoſe ſervants did not think themſelves ſufficiently conſidered. Some obſolete claims in the county of Cornwall, which his royal highneſs was ſaid to be intitled to, had been lately revived; and a ſtannery court, or what was called a parliament, had been held there; and mention had been made of certain powers which the prince ought to enjoy, that would, in fact, make the elections of members of parliament for Cornwall dependent on him. The lord viſcount Bolingbroke was then in England; and though they who knew him beſt, hated him the worſt, yet the great reputation he had acquired in the political world, and the ſeeming diſintereſtedneſs of his behaviour, had procured him admittance to his royal highneſs, and even ſome degree of his confidence. It was ſome time before the prince's ſervants found out that his lordſhip's intention was, if poſſible, to engroſs his royal highneſs to himſelf, and to perpetuate the breach in the royal family. At the opening of this ſeſſion, they had no ſuſpicion of that kind, and they united in an oppoſition to the court. The addreſs which had been moved for, was oppoſed by them, and the conduct Proceedings of parliament.

Geo. II. 1748. conduct of the miniſtry arraigned for concluding the peace before the arrival of the Ruſſians; and they talked of making a ſtrict enquiry into the cauſes which had rendered the events of the war ſo little anſwerable to the bravery of the troops employed. This oppoſition was ſtrongly ſupported by doctor Lee, who was then in the prince's ſervice, and highly reſpected by all parties, both as a great civilian, and a worthy man. But the motion for the addreſs, which contained nothing particular in it but what, in a manner, they were directed to ſay by his majeſty's ſpeech, was ſo well ſupported by Mr. Pelham and Mr. Murray, the ſollicitor general, that the oppoſition to it did not think proper to hazard a diviſion, and it was agreed to without any; and both that, and the addreſs from the peers, received moſt gracious anſwers from his majeſty.

But though peace had been re-eſtabliſhed, and a great reduction of forces, both by land and ſea, had been reſolved upon, it was found impracticable to eaſe the nation all at once of the vaſt expence ſhe was obliged to bear. When the committee of ſupply was eſtabliſhed, they took under their conſideration the ſums that were neceſſary, 1ſt, For making good the engagements that had been made by the parliament to his majeſty, and the ſervices undertaken upon account of the war. 2dly, For paying off debts. 3dly, For making good deficiencies. And, 4thly, For the current ſervice of the year.

The vaſt debt occaſioned by the war.

Under the firſt head it was found, that above 44,000 l. was due to the elector of Bavaria; upwards of 30,000l. to the duke of Brunſwick, and about the ſame ſum to the landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel; beſides between 8 and 9,000l. to the elector of Mentz. The extraordinary expence of the office of ordnance for the land ſervice, not provided for by parliament, amounted to about 43,000l. and about 112,000l. were due to the forces in Cape Breton and the Eaſt-Indies. Above 418,000l. were found due for extraordinary expences of the land forces in Flanders, North Britain, and America; and other ſervices in 1748, not provided for by parliament. And beſides all that great ſum, an arrear of 100,000l. was claimed by the queen of Hungary. But the moſt extraordinary claim of all, was 10,000l. for reimburſing to the city of Glaſgow the ſums extorted from them by the rebels. So that the whole ſum under this head of ſupply amounted to 796,513l. 3s. 7d.

Under the ſecond head of ſupply, fell the diſcharge of the navy, victualling, and tranſport bills, which amounted to the amazing

amazing ſum of 3,000,000l. ſterling; and the diſcharge of the debt of the office of ordnance, amounted to above 230,000l. and the ſum for diſcharging ſeamens wages, and other debts of the navy, due December 31 this year, not provided for, amounted to 1,000,000l. which made the whole ſum under this ſecond head of ſupply 4,233,382l. 5s. 1d. Geo. II. 1748.

Under the head of deficiencies, fell a ſum amounting in the whole to 687,219l. 8s. 4½d. and the current ſervice of the year required 2,374,333l. 15s. 3d.

It has been thought proper to be the more explicit upon thoſe heads of ſupply, eſpecially the three firſt, becauſe they evidence to the reader the incredible expence, notwithſtanding all the former prodigious ſums that have been granted, with which Great Britain carried on the late war, and conſequently the neceſſity of putting a period to it. Mr. Pelham had often declared, and lamented, thoſe vaſt expences, as well as the growing inability of the allies of Great Britain, to bear their proportionable charge in the field or at ſea. For the Dutch, during the whole courſe of the war, had been able to fit out no more than ſix ſhips, and thoſe moſt miſerably mann'd and rigg'd. Notwithſtanding this, the oppoſition treated him very ſeverely, as if he had been partly the author of thoſe debts and deficiencies; while the reſolutions to diſcharge them were paſſing through the committee, and reported to the houſe. Mr. Pelham himſelf bore this treatment with great temper and equanimity, and was ſtrongly ſupported by Mr. Pitt and the ſollicitor general, who were looked upon as two of the beſt ſpeakers in the houſe. 285,878l. were demanded for the ordinary of the navy, including half-pay to ſea officers, which was with great reaſon thought to be an immenſe ſum for ſuch an appropriation, and, as ſuch it was ſtrongly oppoſed both in the houſe and in the committee. But the arguments from paſt times, which were the principal arguments urged againſt it, were far from being convincing; becauſe the navy of Great Britain never had been ſo numerous or ſo powerful as it was then; nor, upon a fair compariſon, was the ſum found to exceed what had been granted in former times for the ſame purpoſe. The arrear demanded for the queen of Hungary, bore a much ſtronger debate, and was warmly oppoſed by the earl of Egmont, lord Strange, ſir Francis Daſhwood, and others. According as the account was ſtated, the oppoſition ſeemed to have the better of the argument; but the miniſtry urged the ſacrifices ſhe had made to obtain peace, and the compliance ſhe had lately ſhewn to Great Britain. The oppoſi-

Particulars of the ſums granted by parliament.

tion,

Geo. II. 1748. tion, however, ventured two diviſions upon the queſtion, one in the committee, which was carried by a majority of 200 againſt 82, and the other upon the report, which was carried by 129 againſt 49.

But a greater debate happened with regard to a reſolution which paſſed in the committee of the 14th of April, by which 16,000 l. was granted for the pay of general and ſtaff-officers. This eſtabliſhment was repreſented as being abſurd in the time of peace, and extravagant, conſidering the great expences the nation had been at during the war. The gentlemen of the army, however, found means to engage ſome great perſonages to inſiſt upon their reſolution, and the miniſter and his friends, perhaps againſt their better ſentiments, were obliged to ſupport it. The oppoſition, at this time, was of a very different complexion from what it had been formerly. No declamations againſt the general doctrine of ſtanding armies were now heard; nor were the miniſtry, ſeveral of whom had diſtinguiſhed themſelves in former oppoſitions, much oppoſed, when they declared, that they hoped the ſtanding troops of Great Britain never would be under 30,000 men. 67,226l. were reſolved, in the committee, to be granted for reduced officers of land forces and marines. This, but with much leſs ſhew of reaſon, was likewiſe oppoſed by the ſervants of the prince of Wales; but both queſtions were carried upon diviſions, the firſt by a majority of 171 againſt 93, and the ſecond by 147 againſt 70.

Caſe of the city of Glaſgow.

The 10,000l. granted to the city of Glaſgow, was likewiſe ſtrongly oppoſed by the anti-miniſterial party, which conſiſted of a coalition between the ſervants of the prince of Wales, and a few independent country gentlemen, who, perhaps, acted entirely upon principle. It was thought, that the city of Glaſgow had no particular claim of favour prior to that of other places in the united kingdoms; and ſome of the members for the northern counties of England, through which the rebels marched, very properly obſerved, that if every place that had ſuffered from them were to bring in a bill of their damages, the expence would be endleſs, and conſequently that the precedent might be dangerous, becauſe it might be followed by many other towns, and even private gentlemen had an equal right to be indemnified. Others inſiſted, that if the city of Glaſgow was really an object of parliamentary favour, it ought to be indemnified out of the forfeited eſtates of the rebels. On the other hand, the friends for the reſolution of granting the money, endeavoured to ſhew, that the merits of Glaſgow were peculiar to itſelf; and that no city in

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the king's dominions, ever ſince the time of the reformation, had diſtinguiſhed itſelf with equal zeal and ſucceſs in the cauſe of Liberty. A great deal likewiſe was ſaid in ſupport of the reſolution, from the particular behaviour of the city of Glaſgow, in raiſing two regiments in defence of the government, even at the time when they were unprotected by the royal forces, which was not the caſe with Newcaſtle, and other places in the north of England. At laſt the queſtion being called for, it paſſed without a diviſion. Nothing remarkable happened with regard to the manner of raiſing the money that was neceſſary this year, and which, in the whole, amounted to 7,930,382 l. 5 s. 1 d. This was an immenſe ſum, and ſtartled the public; but no body exclaimed more againſt the expence than the miniſtry did, and to do them juſtice, they appeared entirely diſpoſed to make the public amends, by co-operating with every meaſure that could be propoſed for its ſervice. Geo. II. 1748.

Commiſſioners of appeal appointed.

The finiſhing an expenſive, unfortunate war, naturally turned the minds of men to ſchemes of public emolument; and this ſeſſion was fruitful of ſuch. A bill was brought in for declaring the authority of the commiſſioners, appointed by his majeſty under the great ſeal, for receiving, hearing, and determining appeals in caſes of prizes. By this bill, all the judges were to be appointed commiſſioners. But this met with great oppoſition; for half the judges themſelves thought the conſtitution to be illegal. The earl of Granville, in a very fine ſpeech, diſtinguiſhed the operations of equity from thoſe of law, and ſhewed, they ought always to be ſeparated. The judges themſelves gave their opinions upon lord Bathurſt's motion, ſingly, and ſir Thomas Burnet, one of the juſtices of the common pleas, delivered his in favour of the bill. It had great weight, and he then diſcovered abilities that had been unnoted before; but he was now aged, and ſoon after he died. The marquis of Tweedale and lord Bathurſt ſupported the earl of Granville in oppoſing the bill; but it was ſo ſtrongly enforced by the dukes of Newcaſtle, Argyle, and Bedford, and the lord chancellor, that it paſſed the houſe of lords, and went to the commons, where it met with very little oppoſition, and afterwards it received the royal aſſent.

Caſe of the half-pay officers.

The half-pay ſervice became, about this time, to be a very ſerious affair; and the government thought proper to bring in a bill for amending, explaining, and reducing into one act of parliament the laws relating to his majeſty's navies, ſhips, veſſels, and forces by ſea. The great aim of this

bill

Geo. II. 1748. bill was to render half-pay officers ſubject to martial law, in the ſame manner as if they were in whole pay. As this was a matter that never had been explained, the gentlemen of the navy almoſt unanimouſly oppoſed it. Sir Peter Warren was at this time member of parliament for the city and liberty of Weſtminſter, and in great reputation for the honeſty and openneſs of his character, as well as for his unqueſtionable courage. He oppoſed the bill with great zeal; and on the 24th of February he preſented to the houſe the following petition from ſeveral admirals, captains, and commanders of or belonging to his majeſty's royal navy.

Petition from the ſea officers.

"Sheweth, that your petitioners, finding by the votes of this honourable houſe, that a bill hath been brought in, and read a firſt and ſecond time, and committed, intitled, A bill for amending, explaining, and reducing into one act of parliament, the laws relating to his majeſty's ſhips, veſſels, and forces by ſea, do moſt humbly beg leave to preſent, that in the ſaid bill there are ſeveral clauſes contained, which (ſhould the ſame paſs into a law) would, as your petitioners humbly apprehend, greatly tend to the injury and diſhonour of your petitioners, and all other officers of his majeſty's navy, as alſo to the detriment of his majeſty's ſervice. That as the preſent laws for the government of his majeſty's navy have been always found ſufficient to that end, and the power of the lord high admiral co-operating with the zeal of the ſea-officers, hath been hitherto effectual to ſecure the ſervice of thoſe on half-pay, upon the moſt preſſing occaſions, your petitioners humbly hope they ſhall not be ſubjected to many hardſhips and diſcouragements that muſt attend an alteration of the preſent laws with regard to them in many particulars. Wherefore your petitioners moſt humbly pray, that they may have leave to be heard by their council before the committee of the whole houſe, to whom the ſaid bill is committed, againſt ſuch parts thereof as they apprehend will be injurious to themſelves and the reſt of the officers of his majeſty's navy; or that they may have ſuch other relief, as to this honourable houſe, in their great goodneſs, ſhall ſeem meet."

Debate upon the ſame.

This petition was preſented to the houſe by ſir John Norris, and a motion for its being read was ſeconded by ſir Peter Warren. It was ſigned by no fewer than 3 admirals and 47 captains, who were not members. Many of them had repaired to the admiralty, and threatened to throw up their commiſſions, if the bill ſhould paſs into a law. A motion was made, that the petition ſhould lie upon the table until the report was received from the committee of the whole

houſe, to whom the navy bill was committed; and that the petitioners ſhould then be heard by their council, if they thought fit. Lord Strange, Mr. Bathurſt, Mr. Nugent, admiral Vernon, general Oglethorpe, and others, ſupported this motion: but Mr. Pelham, Mr. Fox, Mr. Pitt, and Mr. Littleton, oppoſed it; and upon a diviſion, it was thrown out by a majority of 227 againſt 121. Though the miniſter again and again declared againſt carrying any queſtion by mere dint of power, yet his example, upon this occaſion, had great influence. Though many of his own friends made uſe of the liberty he gave them to leave him in this queſtion, yet when the debate came, that half-pay officers ſhould be ſubject to martial law, as well in time of peace as in time of war, he carried it by a majority of 186 againſt 113. The firſt material objection offered to the bill, as it ſtood in the committee, related to the clauſe, which obliged the members of a court-martial to take an oath not to diſcloſe, upon any account, or at any time, the opinions or tranſactions of the ſaid court. It was ſaid, that this oath took from parliament that original and fundamental power of impeaching offenders, however great, or of enquiring into offences, however circumſtanced. That it was poſſible for the members of a court-martial, from private or particular conſiderations, to commit the moſt crying injuſtice; and that it was impoſſible for parliament to apply redreſs, becauſe it was impoſſible to come at the truth which this oath abſolutely and eternally ſealed up. That the innocent, who might vote againſt an unjuſt ſentence of a court-martial, are hereby confounded with the guilty, and cannot, without the crime of perjury, ſet forth the truth. It was further urged, that this oath was inconſiſtent with the common and ſtatute laws of the kingdom, ſince it precluded them in caſes where they might have right to interfere; and it was aſked, in what manner an inqueſt could proceed upon the body of a member of a court-martial ſuddenly killed, upon ſome diſpute ariſing in the court, ſince, by this oath, the inqueſt could receive no information as to the circumſtances of the quarrel, to direct them to find the murder accidental, in ſelf-defence, or wilful. Upon all thoſe conſiderations, an amendment was offered to this oath, "By which a member of a court-martial might reveal the opinions of the ſame, in all caſes, wherein the courts of juſtice, as the law now ſtands, have a right to interfere, if required thereto by either houſes of parliament." But this amendment, plauſible as it was, was rejected. It was thought, that the ſtronger the oath of ſecreſy was formed, the independancy

Geo. II. 1748.

Geo. II. 1748. dancy of ſubordinate officers voting in a court-martial, contrary, perhaps, to the ſentiments of their ſuperiors, would be the better ſecured. But during the courſe of the debates, which this very remarkable bill occaſioned, Mr. Pelham began to apprehend, that the ſpirit raiſed againſt it, had proceeded too far; and though ſome very great perſonages ſeemed to intereſt themſelves in carrying the bill through, yet upon the report, the article of war for ſubjecting the half-pay officers of the navy to the ſame diſcipline as upon full pay, was left out, by the conſent, and, indeed, by the deſire, of the miniſtry. After this, ſeveral leſs important alterations and amendments were made in the bill; and it was the 10th of May before it paſſed the houſe of peers, and the 26th before it received the royal aſſent.

The exceptionable clauſes expl.

Debate upon the mutiny act.

The mutiny bill occaſioned this year many unuſual debates, when it was brought in by Mr. Fox, ſecretary at war. At firſt, gentlemen thought the paſſing it was a matter of form; but upon conſidering it, clauſe by clauſe, they found ſeveral innovations laſt year had been introduced, which gave vaſt offence. One amendment offered by the oppoſition, was for having court-martials compoſed only of ſuch officers then on duty in their reſpective regiments, from whence they are ſummoned, whoſe turn it may chance to be at the time of the appointment of ſuch court-martial. This amendment was ſtrongly inſiſted upon, as making court-martials more equitable, and bringing them to a nearer conformity with juries in civil caſes. But it was thought to intrench too much upon the powers of commanders in chief, and was therefore rejected upon a diviſion of 223 againſt 130. Copies of all the articles of war, ſince the reign of Charles II. were called for, and laid before the houſe; and the prince of Wales's ſervants joined with the oppoſition to all the clauſes that ſeemed to veſt any dangerous power in the head, or heads, of the army. They particularly inſiſted, that it ſhould not be lawful, "for any commander in chief, or commanding officer, to require any court-martial, or for any court-martial ſo required, to reviſe or correct, on any pretence whatſoever, a ſentence legal according to this act, and to the articles of war, once given by ſuch court-martial." This article bore a very long debate, and it was urged to be againſt natural equity to ſubject any man to two trials for one and the ſame fact, which muſt be the caſe, if reviſals of ſentences of courts-martial ſhould take place ſo as to inflict a ſeverer puniſhment. Such of the lawyers of the houſe as were in the oppoſition, gave that as their opinion very ſtrongly. But it was anſwered,

that

that even in civil cases, a judge has been known to deſire the jury to reconſider their verdict, and that they have brought in one more ſevere than what they had given before. Beſides, as no abuſes of that kind were pretended or complained of, it was thought, that the clauſe intimated a kind of indecent reflection upon the heads of the army; and therefore it was carried in the negative, by a majority of 211 againſt 123. Geo. II. 1748.

Diviſions upon the ſame.

But the greateſt debate upon this occaſion, regarded the laſt clauſe of the mutiny act, which was entirely new, and ran as follows: "And whereas it may be otherwiſe doubted, whether the officers and perſons employed in the trains of artillery, or the reduced officers of his majeſty's land forces or marines on the Britiſh or Iriſh eſtabliſhment on half-pay, be within the intent and meaning of this act, for puniſhing of officers and ſoldiers who ſhall mutiny or deſert his majeſty's ſervice, and for puniſhing falſe muſters, and for payment of quarters. It is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that the officers or perſons employed, or that ſhall be employed, in the ſeveral trains of artillery, or the reduced officers of his majeſty's land forces or marines on the Britiſh and Iriſh eſtabliſhments of half-pay, be at all times ſubject to all the penalties and puniſhments mentioned in this act, and ſhall, in all reſpects whatſoever, be holden to be within the intent and meaning of every part of this act, during the continuance of the ſame."

Great oppoſition on the laſt clauſe.

This clauſe was repreſented in a moſt dreadful light, as being highly dangerous to the conſtitution, and as increaſing the number of officers depending upon the crown, and ſubject to military law. On the other hand, it was thought highly adviſeable to ſubject all officers to military law, becauſe it rendered them ſubject to diſcipline; and it was pretty clearly proved, that officers, upon half-pay, were originally deemed, though not in actual ſervice, to be ſubject to martial law. "What danger, ſaid Mr. P——, (who was at this time paymaſter general) can happen by obliging a half-pay officer to continue upon the military eſtabliſhment? It is admitted on all hands, that while he is in full pay, he muſt employ his time, his ſtudy, and even his ſword, as his ſuperiors ſhall direct. There may poſſibly be danger in this, but it never can happen till the direction becomes wicked, nor prevented, but by the virtue of the army. It is to that virtue we even, at this time, truſt, ſmall as our army is; it is to that virtue we muſt have truſted, had this bill been modelled as its warmeſt oppoſers could have wiſhed; and without this vir-

Mr. P——'s ſpeech.

Geo. II. 1748-9. tue, ſhould the lords, the commons, and the people of England intrench themſelves behind parchment up to the teeth, the ſword will find a paſſage to the vitals of the conſtitution."

On the 1ſt of March, a motion was made in the houſe of commons, to amend the laſt clauſe of the bill, ſo as to render half-pay officers ſubject to the act only in caſes of actual war, inſurrection, rebellion, or invaſion. But this amendment was rejected, by a majority of 203 againſt 137. This ſame oppoſition was repeated to the bill when it came to be reported, and loſt by much the ſame majority. Great objections were urged againſt the oath of ſecrecy, required to be taken by the members of the court-martial and the judge advocate, which precluded even the parliament itſelf from coming to any evidence by a court martial, be the cauſe ever ſo alarming or intereſting. It was therefore propoſed, that the members of the court-martial ſhould be freed from their oath, if thereunto required by the courts of juſtice in ſuch caſes, where they have now by a law a right to interfere, or by either houſe of parliament. The miniſtry, at firſt, ſeemed inclinable to agree to this amendment, but they did not think proper to yield ſo far in a matter that had already coſt them ſo much trouble, and which might encourage greater oppoſitions. All they could be brought to was, that the oath ſhould be binding, unleſs the contrary was required by act of parliament.

Debates on the oath of ſecrecy.

The bill is carried to the lords.

When the bill was ſent to the lords, it there met with a freſh oppoſition; and it was unaccountably propoſed, to reſtrain all courts-martial from inflicting any puniſhment affecting life or limb. But this queſtion was carried in the negative, by a majority of 88 againſt 15. The judges were then conſulted, "Whether the half-pay officers, not being included in the number of 18,857 effective men, mentioned in the preamble of the bill, could be deemed ſubject to it, or to any of the pains and puniſhments mentioned therein, were it not for the laſt clauſe contained in the bill then before the houſe." Upon this queſtion, the judges were divided in opinion. The lord chancellor was clearly for the affirmative. Some lords thought, that if the laſt clauſe ſhould paſs, ſome proviſion ſhould be made to compel the government to do juſtice to the officers upon half-pay, by preferring them according to the date of their commiſſions, and the rank they had in the army. They likewiſe affected great fears, leaſt the clauſe, if it ſhould paſs, ſhould ſtrengthen the hand of the miniſtry, by giving them power over all the half-pay officers in the kingdom, many of whom were men of great fortune

Caſe of the half-pay officers.

tunes and families, which might have a dreadful influence at the general election. The earl of Bath, who happened to be ſecretary at war during the rebellion in the year 1715, ſpoke in this queſtion with great abilities and preciſion. A caſe was urged, in which ſeven or eight half-pay officers who were taken priſoners at Preſton during that rebellion, ſuffered death by martial law. The king and the government were ſo clearly of opinion that they were ſubject to it, that upon certain rumours, as if thoſe officers would be brought up to London, and fined in a civil court, after being condemned by the martial, both the ſecretary of ſtate (general Stanhope) and the ſecretary at war, by the king's orders, ſent letters to general Carpenter to put the ſentence in execution upon the ſpot, and even to carry back the priſoners to Preſton, if they had already ſet out for London; which orders were complied with. The earl of Bath admitted the fact, but was not aſhamed to ſay, that he was now of an opinion contrary to what he was obliged to be by virtue of his office. He mentioned, "That upon the breaking out of that rebellion, Mr. Walpole, afterwards earl of Orford, moved for an addreſs, which was preſented to the king, that he would be pleaſed to employ all half-pay officers, and put them upon full pay; which addreſs would have been quite unneceſſary and improper, had the houſe underſtood half-pay officers as much ſubjected as full pay ones are to martial law." His lordſhip, at the ſame time took notice, that Mr. Fox, ſecretary at war, had ſent him ſome papers that had paſſed through his own hands, while he was in that office, with a deſign, as his lordſhip ſuppoſed, to prevent his falling into any inconſiſtency of conduct. "From thoſe papers, continued he, it appears, that ſo early as the month of July 1715, all half-pay officers were voted into full pay by the other houſe. The beginning of Auguſt following, they were apprized of it by an advertizement in the Gazette, and ordered to be ready to repair to the places afterwards to be appointed: and in September, they were, by another advertizement, ordered to be, againſt ſuch a day, at the places appointed reſpectively; ſuch as Exeter, Briſtol, Cheſter, York, Newcaſtle, according to the regiments they had formerly belonged to, under pain of being ſtruck off the liſt of half-pay. This laſt advertizement, continued his lordſhip, plainly ſhews, that at the time it was publiſhed, when people could judge a little cooly, the opinion was, that half-pay officers were not ſubject to martial law; for otherwiſe the orders would have been iſſued, under pain of being deemed deſerters, and

Geo. II. 1748-9.

See vol. XVIII. p. 484 485.

Stated by the ear. of Bath.

Geo. II. 1748-9. puniſhed as ſuch; becauſe the new munity bill for that year was paſt, and began to be in full force from the 1ſt of Auguſt: the preamble of which included not only the troops then on foot, but ſuch as ſhould be raiſed for the defence and ſervice of the realm; and the firſt enacting clauſe was, that every perſon being in his majeſty's ſervice in the army, or muſtered, or in pay as an officer, who ſhall deſert his majeſty's ſervice in the army, ſhall ſuffer death, or ſuch other puniſhment as by a court-martial ſhall be inflicted." His lordſhip then proceeded to diſtinguiſh what was really right to be done, and what had been done in the time of the rebellion, when the minds of the public were heated; and having obſerved that he had conſulted with the beſt conſtitution lawyers in the kingdom, he concluded againſt the clauſe: but it was carried by a majority of 72 againſt 15. After this, an attempt was made to get a clauſe inſerted in the bill, to exempt any peer of the realm from being tried by a court-martial. But this was likewiſe defeated; and the bill at laſt paſſed, with a few inconſiderable amendments, and received the royal aſſent on the 21ſt of March.

The bill paſſes.

Bill ordered in for limiting the time of ſervice in the army.

Thoſe debates made very ſerious impreſſions upon the minds of many people, both without and within doors. A great jealouſy in the army began to take root, and many plans were publiſhed, particularly one by Mr. Thornton, a member of the houſe, and the ſame who had diſtinguiſhed himſelf ſo remarkably during the rebellion, for rendering the militia a kind of counterpoiſe to the ſtanding army. Many gentlemen, who were quite diſintereſted in the motives of their oppoſition, perceived, that the general topicks againſt a ſtanding army, had now loſt all their force; and Mr. Thomas Pitt, elder brother to the pay-maſter general, on the 9th of March moved, "that a bill ſhould be brought in for limiting reſpective times, beyond which no non-commiſſion officer or ſoldier now, or who hereafter may be ſuch, in his majeſty's land ſervice, ſhall be compelled to continue in the ſaid ſervice." This motion was ſeconded by ſir Francis Daſhwood, and was, in itſelf, ſo plauſible for rendering the militia uſeful, that it met with little or no oppoſition. It was, however, but ill ſupported by numbers; and at laſt, on the 19th of April, it was, after a diviſion of 139 againſt 82, put off for two months, which was equal to loſing it; becauſe it was underſtood that the parliament, before that time, would be prorogued, as in fact it was.

The abuſe of paper-money all over the Britiſh plantations and colonies in America, had, at this time, gone to a great height,

height, and was ſeverely complained of by Mr. Walpole the elder, auditor of America, who was looked upon as having great experience in thoſe ſort of matters. He therefore moved for a bill, "to regulate and reſtrain paper bills of credit in the Britiſh colonies and plantations in America, and to prevent the ſame being legal tenders in payment for money," &c. This motion was made February 16, and Mr. Walpole, lord Duplin, and ſeveral other gentlemen, were ordered to prepare and bring in the bill. When it came to be read, it appeared to be a prohibition to iſſue any paper bills of any kind or denomination, or under any pretext whatſoever, without his majeſty's licence; and it contained ſome clauſes which ſeemed to enlarge the powers of the crown over the Engliſh colonies and plantations in America. Upon this, petitions were preſented againſt it by the agents for Connecticut, Penſilvania, Rhode iſland, Maſſachuſets Bay, South Carolina, and New York; and likewiſe from a number of Weſt-India merchants and others reſiding in London; all which were ordered to lie upon the table till the ſecond reading of the bill, when the petitioners were heard by their council, and made ſo effectual an oppoſition againſt it, that the bill was dropt for that ſeſſion. Geo. II. 1749. Caſe of the American paper-money, and a bill thereupon, which is dropt.

A bill, which was brought in this ſeſſion, "for extending and improving the trade to Africa," created more difficulty, than it did, debate. This company, the trade of which is of vaſt conſequence to England, had been long in a declining ſtate. It had often received the bounty of parliament, to enable them to ſupport their forts and ſettlements, without which the Britiſh trade could not have been carried on. This countenance of parliament, had encouraged a great many merchants and others to give large credit to the company, which enabled them to ſupport and ſecure thoſe forts and ſettlements. But the affairs of the company daily declining, and at laſt being reduced to the ſole property they had in thoſe forts and ſettlements, it was eaſy to ſee, that without the interpoſition of parliament, the company muſt fall, and the creditors be ruined. Had the fate of the company only been in queſtion, the parliament, which had been tired with applications from it, would have taken very little concern in the matter. But the merchants of London, Liverpool, and other places trading to America, took the alarm, and ſeveral petitions were preſented to the houſe upon this occaſion. One, early in the ſeſſion, came from the company itſelf, praying for ſome laſting encouragement to pay their debts, and to maintain their forts and caſtles in a defenſible condition, for Bill for the African trade.

Geo. II. 1749. the protection of a free and open trade of all his majeſty's ſubjects to the coaſt of Africa, or for ſuch other relief as the houſe ſhould think proper.

* Petitions for it.

Though this petition was recommended to the conſideration of the houſe, from his majeſty, by the chancellor of the exchequer, yet ſo little regard was ſhown to it, that it was ordered to lie upon the table. On the 19th of January, the creditors of the company petitioned the houſe for relief, which petition was likewiſe ordered to lie upon the table; and on the 9th of February, another petition was preſented to the houſe by ſeveral merchants of London, American planters, and others, ſetting forth the importance of the American trade, and the impoſſibility of maintaining it without ſupporting the forts and caſtles, and praying the houſe to take ſuch methods, as they ſhould judge moſt proper and effectual for preſerving, extending, and protecting that moſt valuable branch of the Britiſh trade and commerce. This petition being ordered to lie upon the table, the matter was taken into conſideration upon the 7th of March, and the houſe reſolved to go into a committee of the whole houſe upon it on the 16th. But on the 10th, a petition came from the merchants trading to Africa from the port of Liverpool. This petition was of a very ſingular nature; for it alledged, that the beſt ſecurity and proviſion of the African trade, depended upon his majeſty's ſhips of war; and that though forts and ſettlements were thought neceſſary to prevent the rivals of Great Britain from ſetting up the claim of an extenſive trade, yet that the petitioners were of opinion, they would prove a burthen and a nuſance in the hands of any joint ſtock company, whoſe intereſt has been, and ever will be, found incompatible with that of the ſeparate and open trader; and therefore the petition prayed, "that our preſent forts and ſettlements upon the African coaſts, might be taken into his majeſty's immediate poſſeſſion, and ſupported by the publick for the general good of the Britiſh trade; or if this could not be obtained, that the care of them might be committed to the merchants trading to that coaſt, in ſuch manner, as to the houſe ſhould ſeem meet, not thereby to acquire any other advantage or right in the ſaid trade, but what ſhall be in common with all his majeſty's ſubjects." Another petition of the ſame tendancy came from the city of Briſtol, and all the petitions were referred to the committee appointed to conſider the ſtate of the trade to Africa.

When the affair came before this committee, the matter appeared to be of great conſequence, and of great difficulty. Many

Many eminent merchants were examined upon the expediency of opening a free trade, and of keeping on a joint ſtock trade to Africa. Alderman Bethel was in the chair, and after ſurmounting a great many difficulties, a medium was found, and the committee came to the following reſolutions: "That the trade of Africa ought always to remain free and open to all his majeſty's ſubjects. That it ought never to be taxed with any duties whatſoever, for the ſupport and maintainance of any forts or ſettlements there. That Britiſh forts and ſettlements on that coaſt, are neceſſary to be maintained as marks of the poſſeſſion of Great Britain in thoſe parts, and may, under proper management, be rendered uſeful to the traders in general. That in order to carry on the trade in as beneficial a manner to theſe kingdoms, all his majeſty's ſubjects whatſoever trading to Africa, be united in an open company, without any joint ſtock or power to trade as a corporation, under proper regulations; and that the forts and ſettlements upon that coaſt, be put under proper management and direction." Geo. II. 1749. Reſolutions upon the ſame.

A bill being brought in upon thoſe reſolutions, the African company preſented another petition, praying that they might have a compenſation for their property in the forts and ſettlements. A counter petition from their creditors was preſented, praying that this compenſation ſhould be applied for their relief. The houſe found this laſt petition to be reaſonable, and after various traverſes, they came to a reſolution to grant a compenſation to the company, whenever they were diveſted of their charter, lands, forts, and all other effects; but that ſuch compenſation ſhould be applied to pay their creditors. After this, the bill went through the commons into the houſe of lords, where it met with ſuch objections, that it was dropt. But their lordſhips addreſſed his majeſty, to direct the commiſſioners for trade and plantations to prepare a ſcheme for the better ſecuring, improving, and extending the trade to Africa, and to lay the ſame before both houſes of parliament, at the beginning of next ſeſſion of parliament; and in the mean time to give ſuch directions for preſerving and ſecuring the forts, caſtles, and ſettlements upon the coaſt of Africa, belonging to Great Britain, as his majeſty, in his royal wiſdom, ſhall judge proper. And that his majeſty would be pleaſed to direct the commiſſioners for executing the office of lord high admiral of Great Britain, to appoint proper perſons to inſpect and examine into the ſtate and condition of the ſaid forts, caſtles, and ſettlements; and alſo of the military ſtores, caſtle ſlaves, canoes, and other veſſels Other petitions. The bill dropt in the houſe of peers. Addreſs to the king there.

Geo. II. 1749. veſſels belonging to the royal African company, and to report, with all poſſible diſpatch, how they ſhould find the ſame." It has been thought proper to give a detail of this important affair in this place, becauſe the progreſs made in it during this ſeſſion of parliament, cleared the way to what was done in the ſubſequent, when the affair was ſettled upon the foundations here mentioned. Some people affected, on this occaſion, to obſerve, that the royal African company had, ever ſince the revolution, been diſcouraged by the government, becauſe it had been planned and carried into execution by the duke of York, afterwards James II. The government, however, were at this time very ſenſible of its importance, as may appear from the following incident. An Engliſh trader had decoyed away the ſon of a conſiderable prince on that coaſt, and ſold him, and his companion (neither of them above eighteen years of age) to a Britiſh planter. But this was no ſooner diſcovered in England, than the government ſent and paid the ranſom, and they were brought to England; where the earl of Hallifax, firſt lord commiſſioner of trade and plantation, gave order for their education and inſtruction, and after cloathing and entertaining them ſuitable to their birth, they were ſent back to their own country; and their father was ſaid ever after to retain and expreſs a grateful ſenſe of the obligation.

Reflection on the fate of the bill.

An African prince in England.

As the miniſter purſued his ſcheme of indulging the public in whatever ſhould be thought for its advantage, he even forwarded all projects of that nature, without regard to party. The nation in general, from what had happened during the courſe of the laſt war, were out of humour with the Dutch, and the affair of the Britiſh fiſhery, which that people were ſaid to have uſurped and engroſſed, was now revived. On the 8th of February, a committee was appointed to conſider the ſtate of the Britiſh fiſhery. During the courſe of this committee's examinations, the practices of the engroſſers of the fiſh about London and Weſtminſter, were proved to be ſo iniquitous, that it was thought proper to paſs a bill for erecting a fiſh-market in Weſtminſter, which was ſoon after built, and carried on at a vaſt expence by ſome public-ſpirited gentlemen, though it did not long ſubſiſt. From another particular that aroſe before the ſame committee, a bill paſſed for encouraging the whale fiſhery. As to the advantages of the Britiſh white herring and cod fiſheries, they appeared, from a petition preſented to the houſe from ſeveral merchants and traders of the city of London, to be ſo great, that general Oglethorpe, chairman of the committee, reported,

Progreſs of the bill for encouraging the Britiſh fiſhery.

reported, that the reſolution of a committee of the whole houſe was, "That the carrying on the Britiſh herring and cod fiſheries, will be of eminent advantage to the trade and navigation of theſe kingdoms, and is highly worthy the conſideration of parliament, and deſerves proper encouragement." Geo. II. 1749.

This reſolution being agreed to by the houſe, a bill was brought in upon it for the encouragement of the Britiſh white herring and cod fiſheries; but it was the ſecond of June before this bill could be preſented to the houſe, and the ſeſſion was prorogued before it could come to the houſe of lords. But though it was thus loſt this year, it was afterwards revived, and received the royal aſſent. The bill put off.

Amongſt many other public ſpirited reſolutions, one was for ſettling and improving the countries adjoining to Hudſon's bay, and for laying open the ſame. This was oppoſed by the Hudſon's bay company, as being detrimental to the trade; but they petitioned, that, if it ſhould be thought proper to lay the trade open, they might have ſatisfaction as to their rights and property they had enjoyed under their charter. The houſe, after ſhewing great patience, and ſpending a great deal of time in examining this matter, found it impoſſible to preſerve that trade, without forts and ſettlements upon Hudſon's bay, which, if not maintained by an excluſive company, muſt be maintained by the public; and no proviſion having been made that ſeſſion for ſuch an expence, the affair was then dropt. Proceedings for opening the Hudſons Bay trade,

The affair of preſſing ſeamen during the late war, had been ſo burthenſome to trade, that on the 14th of April, lord Barrington, who was then one of the lords of the admiralty, moved for leave to bring in a bill, for providing ſeamen for his majeſty's navy, without diſtreſſing trade. This motion was ſupported by Mr. Pelham and the elder Mr. Walpole, but oppoſed by the earl of Egmont, Mr. Bathurſt, and general Oglethorpe. But the whole houſe, upon ſir John Barnard's motion, going into a committee to conſider of the heads of ſuch a bill, the committee, after various debates and diviſions, on the 11th of May, came to a reſolution, which was agreed to by the houſe, and was, "That the retaining and ſecuring a number of ſeamen, over and above thoſe actually employed, by a proper allowance of pay, will be a means of more ſpeedily manning his majeſty's navy, on any future occaſion, without diſtreſſing trade." Nothing farther was done in this affair, which the miniſter thought, in his own mind, might be attended with ſome unpopularity, as the plan carried with it the air of a regiſter. Such were the and againſt preſſing ſeamen.

Geo. II. 1749. the party proceedings of this ſeſſion of parliament; and tho' they did not, all of them, immediately take place, yet the miniſter gave ſuch reaſons for delaying ſome of them for another ſeſſion, that the public were intirely ſatisfied with the uprightneſs of his intentions.

The French attempt to ſettle Tobago.

Though by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and the treaties upon which it was founded, the iſlands in the Weſt-Indies, commonly called the neutral iſlands, were to remain in that condition; yet no ſooner was the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle concluded, than the French court ordered the marquis of Caylus, the governor of Martinico, to take poſſeſſion of Tobago, an Engliſh iſland, in his maſter's name; though Mr. Grenville, governor of Barbadoes, had given the French inhabitants upon that iſland a regular notice to quit the ſame in thirty days, under the pain of military execution. In contradiction to this notice or declaration, Caylus publiſhed a moſt inſolent proclamation, inſiſting upon the iſland of Tobago being his maſter's property, and promiſing to defend all the French inhabitants in their poſſeſſion of it. Captain Tyrrel, in the Cheſterfield man of war, was ſent from Barbadoes to viſit Tobago, and perceived the French were proceeding very briſkly in ſettling it. But he found himſelf unprovided with proper powers for diſpoſſeſſing them, and ſo returned to Barbadoes, where the people were in the utmoſt conſternation. But no ſooner did the accounts arrive in London, than the Weſt-India merchants met together, to conſider of proper and effectual application to recover the neutral iſlands of St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Dominico, out of the hands of the French, and to check their progreſs in ſettling Tobago, and violently depriving the crown of Great Britain of that important place. At this meeting a letter was laid before the gentlemen, from his grace the duke of Bedford, ſignifying, "That as ſoon as the declaration of the French governor was known relating to the ſettlement of Tobago, a courier was diſpatched to Verſailles relating thereto, which was returned, and brought a declaration of the ſaid court, which utterly denies having any knowledge of the abovementioned governor's proceedings, and had diſpatched orders to the ſaid governor to deſiſt from ſuch proceedings." Upon which it was unanimouſly agreed to appoint a committee, to return their thanks to his grace for his wiſe and prudent conduct in this important affair.

But their court diſowns the attempt.

Mr. York was at this time charged with the French affairs at Paris, and had obtained this declaration; but it was far from being ſatisfactory to the oppoſition. Upon which Mr. York

York was directed to make a ſecond application to the marquis de Puyſieux, the French miniſter, who repeated all that had been ſaid before on that head by his maſter's orders, and added, "that though it was evident France was in poſſeſſion of that iſland towards the middle of the laſt century, it ſhould nevertheleſs be diſpoſed of as his Britannic majeſty ſhould think proper." But before this ſecond explanation could arrive at the court of Great Britain, a motion was made in the houſe of commons, "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to give directions for laying before the houſe, copies of the inſtructions given to the governors of Barbadoes for ten years laſt paſt, ſo far as the ſame relate to the iſlands of St. Lucia, Domingo, St. Vincent, and Tobago." This motion was plainly calculated to embaraſs the miniſtry; and it was loudly pretended in the debate, that a private ceſſion of the iſland of Tobago had been made to the French. On the other hand, it was repreſented to be quite an unprecedented way of proceeding, for a houſe of commons to make ſuch an addreſs, which could only ſerve for a foundation for ſome reſolutions that might interrupt the new peace, and therefore the motion was laid aſide upon the previous queſtion. Several other motions for papers relating to the convention of Hanau, and calling for the inſtructions of the Engliſh miniſters, were likewiſe made by the earl of Egmont, and other noblemen and gentlemen; but as they evidently tended to cenſure the late treaty, which had been laid before the houſe, but had not been taken into its conſideration, they were all of them laid aſide by a great majority; one in particular, of 281 againſt 120. Another motion was made for referring the expending of ſeveral immenſe ſums that had been granted to his majeſty upon account of the war, and of ſervices not provided for by parliament, to the conſideration of a ſelect committee; but they were all, in like manner, laid aſide, by a great majority.

Geo. II. 1749.

Motions made by the oppoſition.

All of them miſcarry.

At laſt, on the 13th of June, his majeſty put an end to the ſeſſion by a ſpeech, in which, alluding to the French, he ſaid, that the terms and conditions of the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, had been carried into execution by the ſeveral contracting parties with great punctuality and good faith, ſo far as the time and diſtance of the place would admit. He hoped, that the next meeting they would be able to perfect what they had now begun, for advancing the trade and navigation of his kingdoms, particularly by rendering their naval force the moſt ſerviceable and uſeful. He then expreſſed

The king's ſpeech at the cloſe of the parliament.

Geo II. 1749. preſſed his ſatisfaction at ſeeing public credit in ſo flouriſhing a condition at the end of an expenſive, though neceſſary, war. And laſtly, after returning thanks for their ſupplies, and recommending unanimity to them, he diſmiſſed them.

Deſigns of the government.

The government of England, at this time, were chiefly buſied in concluding the means of reaping the full benefit of the newly concerted peace, and checking ſome inſolent, ill-judged attempts to diſturb the tranquillity at home. Trade was reſtored to its former channels; great progreſs was made in reducing the army, and a ſcheme, which was afterwards put in execution, was formed by Mr. Pelham for reducing the legal intereſt upon the public debt.

Riot at Oxford.

But an unhappy riot, ſometime before this, happened at Oxford, where ſome young men, by no means remarkable for any thing but their irregularity, were guilty of ſeveral treaſonable practices, particularly in drinking the pretender's health. The vice-chancellor, and heads of houſes, with the proctors of the univerſity, publiſhed a declaration of their ſincere abhorrence and deteſtation of ſuch factious and ſeditious practices, and alſo of their firm reſolution to puniſh all offenders, of what ſtate or quality ſoever, who ſhould be duly convicted thereof, according to the utmoſt ſeverity and rigour of the ſtatutes. In the ſame declaration, were contained ſtrict orders for the regulation of the univerſity. As no ſignal puniſhment, however, had been inflicted upon the offenders, whoſe offences had been attended with very provoking circumſtances, the government ſent for three of them into the cuſtody of a meſſenger of ſtate, and two of them,

The authors puniſhed.

Dawes and Whitmore, were tried in the court of King's bench, and being convicted, they were ſentenced to walk through the courts with their crimes fixed to their foreheads, to pay a fine of five nobles each, to be impriſoned for two years, and to find ſecurity for their good behaviour for ſeven more. It is certain the government would not have proceeded to this ſeverity, had the young men ſeemed diſpoſed to have made proper ſubmiſſions, which they did not. This incident led the miniſtry into further enquiries into the ſtate of the univerſity, and they thought they had reaſon to believe, that many of the members were tinctured with jacobitiſm. This apprehenſion went ſo far, that, when the univerſity had drawn up an addreſs, congratulating the king upon the peace, it was refuſed to be received. A motion was likewiſe argued in the court of King's Bench, upon a rule to ſhew cauſe why the council for the king ſhall not be at liberty to inſpect and take copies of the ſtatutes of the univerſity

verſity of Oxford: but this rule was diſmiſſed upon the judges giving their opinions. An information, however, ſome time after, was granted by the ſame court againſt doctor Purnel, the vice-chancellor, for his behaviour in the caſe of the rioters, but was afterwards countermanded, ſome circumſtances appearing greatly in his favour upon a cool enquiry. Geo. II. 1749. Moderation of the government.

The univerſity of Cambridge, at this time, diſtinguiſhed itſelf by its attachment to the government and revolution principles. The duke of Somerſet, who had been long chancellor of that univerſity, had been lately dead, and the heads of the univerſity had turned their eyes upon the duke of Newcaſtle to ſucceed him. Though nothing was more natural than this choice; and though his majeſty himſelf highly approved of it, yet a handle was made of it to widen the difference between his majeſty and the prince of Wales, as if the prince had earneſtly deſired to be made chancellor of the univerſity. But the matter had gone ſo far, that the duke did not find himſelf at liberty to refuſe the honour done him; and he was accordingly choſen without any oppoſition, and inſtalled with the utmoſt magnificence. But though the writers on the ſide of the oppoſition worked up this circumſtance with the utmoſt degree of virulence, in repreſenting the preference given to the duke as an act of inſolence againſt the heir apparent to the crown, yet the public took little or no notice of their invectives. Duke of Newcaſtle choſen chancellor of the univerſity of Cambridge.

The prince of Wales was, at this time indeed, in a very high degree of popularity, which he daily improved by his affability, and the proofs he gave of his public ſpirit. Soon after the peace of Aix-la Chapelle, the nation was over-run with all kinds of apparel and furniture of French manufacture. Though the officers of the revenue, by order of the government, proceeded with ſeverity, nay, zeal, againſt the importers, yet the wearers of thoſe commodities were too frequently ſeen with them, both at the king's court and that of the prince of Wales. The prince and princeſs taking notice of this, ordered that no perſons coming to their court, and none of their ſervants or domeſticks, of either ſex, ſhould appear cloathed in French manufactures. His royal highneſs, at the ſame time, embraced every opportunity of giving his countenance to every ſcheme of popularity, which, at a time ſo full of popular projects, had a vaſt effect with all parties. He even went ſo far, as to give orders for his children to be inſtructed to play Mr. Addiſon's tragedy of Cato, which they did to admiration. Popularity of the prince of Wales.

It

Geo. II. 1749. It muſt be acknowledged, that it was owing chiefly to thoſe popular virtues of his royal highneſs, that his court made the figure they did at this time in the nation, which by the diſbanding of the army, and reſtoring the intercourſe with France, went great lengths in immorality and luxury of every kind; and, in ſome inſtances they were ridiculous even to contempt. In ſome places, particularly in Staffordſhire, the common people were heated, even to madneſs, againſt thoſe who, as they ſaid, had betrayed them, by coming into the ſervice of his majeſty. This occaſioned ſeveral very tumultuous aſſaults upon ſome of the firſt perſons of the kingdom; the duke of Bedford and his friends particularly, at Litchfield races; and ſome rigorous meaſures were once intended for puniſhing the authors; but they were moderated by the proſecutors, upon the ſubmiſſion of the offenders.

Litchfield riot.

Account of the ſettlement of Nova Scotia. Theſe, and many other, enormities, required a more ſpeedy remedy than the ordinary courſe of juſtice could give them; and a ſcheme was at this time adopted by the earl of Halifax and the board of trade, "for the eſtabliſhing a civil government in the province of Nova Scotia, in North America; as alſo for the better peopling and ſettling the ſaid province, and extending and improving the fiſhery thereof, by granting lands within the ſame, and by giving other encouragements amongſt the officers and private men, lately diſmiſſed from his majeſty's land and ſea ſervice, as ſhall be willing to ſettle in the ſaid province."

This propoſal, being laid before the king, received his majeſty's approbation; and by his orders, the commiſſioners of trade and plantations offered to every private ſoldier or ſeamen, in fee ſimple, 50 acres of land if ſingle, and if married, and having families, 10 acres more, with addition according to the increaſe of their families; the ſame to be free of all taxes or quit rents for the ſpace of ten years, and after that, the ſaid 10 acres to pay no more than 1s. a year. Every officer under the degree of an enſign in the land ſervice, or a lieutenant in the ſea ſervice, were to have 80 acres on the ſame condition, with a proportionable addition if they had families. Enſigns were to have 200 acres, lieutenants 300, captains 400, all officers above the rank of captain, 600; and the ſea officers in proportion, with an addition if they had families, or if they were able to cultivate an additional quantity of ground. The adventurers and their families were to be defrayed all the expences of their paſſage, and to be ſubſiſted twelve months after their arrival at Nova Scotia, and to be furniſhed with arms, ammunition, and uten-

ſils

ſils for clearing the ground. The encouragement given to private ſoldiers, was offered to carpenters, ſhip-wrights, and all ſuch artificers as were neceſſary in building and huſbandry. A civil government was to be eſtabliſhed amongſt them as ſoon as poſſible after their arrival, whereby they were to enjoy all the privileges, liberties, and immunities of his majeſty's other ſubjects in America; and care was to be taken for their ſecurity and protection. Geo. II. 1749.

This excellent public-ſpirited ſcheme had a vaſt effect for the reformation and quiet of England; for about the beginning of May, no fewer than 3,750 perſons and families entered themſelves for Nova Scotia; and as many of them went on board as the tranſports provided could carry. Colonel Cornwallis, brother to the lord of that name, was appointed governor of this infant colony; and he arrived with the firſt fleet of tranſports at Chebucto harbour about the 22d of June; and ſuch was the care taken by the government of the health of the adventurers, that few or none of them died in their paſſage. In the firſt fleet were embarked two regiments of foot, who were joined by a company of rangers from Annapolis; and very ſoon after their arrival a town was planned out and begun, under the name of Halifax, in honour of the founder of the colony. Before the 13th of October, the colony was in ſo flouriſhing a way, that the town was ſecured by a palliſade, and no fewer than 350 houſes were built in it.

While one part of the government was thus providing for the future ſafety and peace of the country, another was employed in preparing a moſt magnificent firework, in commemoration of the lately concluded peace. The duke of Montague was then maſter general of the ordnance, and that board had the direction of it: the whole conſtruction was elegant, and it was played off the 27th of April; but the execution was not equal to the preparations and the expence it coſt. It was honoured by the preſence of his majeſty and the royal family, both houſes of parliament, and all the principal inhabitants then reſident in London and Weſtminſter. The fireworks at Paris were ſaid to be equally magnificent; and the 25th of April was appointed by proclamation to be ſolemnized in England as a public thankſgiving for the concluſion of the peace, to which the people of England were every day more and more reconciled. For the city of London having occaſion to addreſs the king upon a daughter being born to the prince of Wales, mentioned it in the warmeſt terms of gratitude. Soon after this, his Rejoicings for the peace.

Geo. II. 1749. his majeſty gave the order of the garter to the prince of Wales's eldeſt ſon, and to the margrave of Anſpach, as he did alſo to the dukes of Bedford and Leeds, and the earls of Granville and Albemarle. A great promotion at the ſame time was made in the order of the Bath. But notwithſtanding all thoſe outward demonſtrations of joy for peace, a great ſpirit, about this time, prevailed amongſt the trading part of England, againſt the methods which were ſaid to be employed for tranſporting Engliſh artificers, in the woollen manufactury eſpecially, to foreign parts, and particularly to Spain. This being a matter puniſhable by law, ſeveral perſons were taken up for it by order of the government. But no clear proofs appearing againſt them, none of them were puniſhed any otherwiſe but by impriſonment. It is certain, however, that notwithſtanding all the precautions taken by the government, a vaſt number of working artificers about this time went into foreign ſervices; and the French miniſtry found great conveniency by employing them in their dock-yards, in conſequence of their new ſcheme for encreaſing their marine, which went on very briſkly. Great enormities, ſuch as robbing on the highway, and frequent murders and executions, were likewiſe the conſequences of the reduction of the army; and the common people of all ſorts, in ſome places, roſe in tumults, and deſtroyed the turnpikes, and committed other acts of violence, which generally required the interpoſition of the military power, and commonly ended in the execution of the moſt culpable. The inſurrection at Briſtol, and in that neighbourhood, threatened very terrible conſequences. Great numbers of people from Glouceſterſhire and Somerſetſhire, cut down the turnpikes, and committed other acts of violence upon Aſhton road. Many of them being well armed, bade defiance to the commiſſioners of the turnpikes, and advanced in a body to reſcue ſome of their companions, who were in priſon at Briſtol; and, in the mean while, they deſtroyed all the turnpikes in the neighbourhood, and even ſome houſes. But the people of Briſtol attacked them ſo briſkly, while they were approaching to their city, that about 30 of them were taken priſoners. Thoſe tumults continued from the 1ſt to the 12th of Auguſt, when ſix troops of dragoon guards arrived in that city, and reſtored its quiet.

Tumults in many places of England, particularly at Briſtol. Suppreſt.

This bad humour in the common people, was not a little increaſed by the great numbers of foreigners, who arrived in England upon the concluſion of the peace. The new ſettlement of Nova Scotia was very promiſing; and it was computed,

Great reſort of foreigners to England.

that no fewer than 10,000 German proteſtants went from England to the Britiſh plantations in America. But the people were ſtill more exaſperated at ſeeing the vaſt numbers of French, eſpecially the lower ſort, who were forced out of their own country by the prevailing ſcarcity in it, and repaired to England, where they got their livelihood in menial ſervices, to the great diſcouragement, and oftentimes diſtreſs, of the natives. The government could fall upon no way to prevent this evil; for many of the nobility and gentry ſeemed, ſince the war, more fond of the French than ever. Every day numbers of them repaired to Paris, where they ſpent exceſſive ſums of ready money, which was but very inconſiderably repaid by the viſits made by the French to England. Geo. II. 1749.

State of affairs in Europe.

Tho' the peace was now concluded between France and Great Britain, yet there was no ceſſation of their intrigues in the cabinet, eſpecially amongſt the northern powers. The renewal of the treaty of the ſubſidy which France was to pay to Sweden, and the declared attachment of the prince ſucceſſor to the intereſts of the French party, gave umbrage to the czarina, leſt the act of ſettlement of the Swediſh crown ſhould, upon the death of the king, be broken through, and the prince become deſpotic. This induced her to make ſome ſevere remonſtrances by her miniſter at Stockholm, who, in a manner, accuſed the Swediſh miniſtry with a deſign to break the ſeventh article of the treaty of Nyſtadt, which makes Ruſſia a guarantee for preſerving the form of the Swediſh government, and which had been confirmed by all the ſubſequent treaties between Ruſſia and Sweden. Upon the whole, he demanded a categorical anſwer upon that head. Though the king, the prince ſucceſſor, and the miniſtry of Sweden, poſitively diſclaimed all deſigns of that kind, yet the czarina ordered a body of her troops to march towards Finland, to be ready to act as ſhe ſhould ſee occaſion upon the king of Sweden's death, which was expected every day. This jealouſy of Ruſſia towards Sweden, gave a pretext for the king of Pruſſia to keep on foot the whole of his army, ſo that it was in readineſs to march on the firſt warning; and he ordered his miniſters to declare ſo much at the ſeveral courts where they reſided. At the ſame time, he wrote a letter to his Britannic majeſty, reflecting upon the conduct of the czarina towards Sweden, and informing him, that by a treaty concluded between him, and France, and Sweden, both France and he were engaged to ſupport the eſtabliſhed ſucceſſion in Sweden, and intreating his Britannic majeſty to co-operate

Swe len and Ruſſia.

Pruſſia.

That king's letter to his Britannic majeſty.

Geo. II. 1749. with him and France in preſerving the peace of the North. Though the Britiſh court had, at this time, no reaſon to be ſatisfied with that of Sweden, yet it concurred in ſentiments with his Pruſſian majeſty. Upon the recall of the earl of Hyndford, Mr. Guydikens was ſent as the Britiſh miniſter to Ruſſia, with orders to ſtrengthen the connections between that court and Great Britain. But in fact it appeared, that the czarina's apprehenſions were groundleſs, and that the ſenate and ſtates of Sweden were no way diſpoſed, had the court been ſo, to alter the form of their conſtitution.

His improvement in his own dominions,

His Pruſſian majeſty, however, made uſe of the tranquillity, for which, perhaps, he was indebted to his great army, in cultivating the arts of peace in his own dominions, which he did in an unexampled degree; but, above all, he promoted a marine. He employed his agents to buy up ſhips in Sweden; he prevailed with France not to renew their treaty of commerce with the Dutch; and the latter complained, the Swediſh and Pruſſian veſſels had all the trade which they uſed to carry on between France and the Baltic. The French king, at this time, thought the friendſhip of Pruſſia could not be bought too dear; and even his great marſhal Saxe made a tour to Berlin to ſtrengthen the alliance between them. In this, both of them had the ſame view; for while the king of Pruſſia was at this time meditating the eſtabliſhment of his favourite Aſiatic company of commerce at Embden,

and thoſe of France in her marine.

the French miniſtry were purſuing their plan, of increaſing their marine, with amazing vigour; and their finances recovered ſo faſt, that according to a plan laid down by M. Rouillé, who was now their miniſter of the marine, France was to have, in ſeven or eight years at moſt, 111 ſhips of the line, 22 bomb-ketches, and 25 fire-ſhips, ready to put to ſea, even in time of peace.

Tranſactions between Great Britain and Spain.

As to the other powers of Europe, very little intereſting happened amongſt them that could injure Great Britain. Spain ſtill continued Mr. Wall, her miniſter at London, and ſhowed a ſincere diſpoſition not only for preſerving, but improving, the peace, by concluding a ſeperate definitive treaty of commerce in the Weſt-Indies, and by ordering reſtitution or payment of ſeveral prizes that had been made upon the Engliſh after the time preſcribed by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle for the ceſſation of hoſtilities. A ſpirit of reſentment, however, ſeemed to grow againſt the Dutch; and the great cry amongſt all ranks of people in England now, was the improvement of the Britiſh fiſhery, by which Holland had acquired ſuch immenſe riches. As to the empreſs queen, ſhe had been too much

Spirit againſt the Dutch.

much exhauſted by the late war, to purſue any ambitious ſchemes at this time. But her miniſters at the court of Ruſſia were daily making repreſentations of the views of Sweden and Pruſſia, as being dangerous to the peace of the North, and particularly, that one of the objects of marſhal Saxe's journey to Berlin, was to engage his Pruſſian majeſty's intereſt, in getting himſelf re-elected duke of Courland, which dignity was then vacant. As the czarina's views with regard to that dutchy were very different, her prepoſſeſſions againſt the king of Pruſſia became every day ſtronger, and at laſt terminated in a more ſtrict alliance than ever, the chief object of which was to diſpoſſeſs him of Sileſia.

Geo. II. 1749.

Empreſs queen makes a farther alliance with Ruſſia.

Before the end of this year, however, ſeveral other alliances and treaties were concluded, in which Great Britain had little or no participation. The court of France had intereſt enough to bring about a treaty between Sweden and Denmark; and all that perſpired of its contents was, that Mr. Titley, the Britiſh miniſter at Copenhagen, was informed by orders from his Daniſh majeſty, that there was nothing in it derogatory to his engagements with Great Britain. It is certain, that his Britannic majeſty's views, at this time, were very different from thoſe of ſome other princes, and intirely terminated in preſerving the peace that had been lately concluded. By his perſwaſion it was that the czarina recalled her troops from Finland, and laid up her fleet, and her example was followed by the Swedes.

Alliance between Denmark and Sweden,

In the South, the king of Sardinia, who had no reaſon to be ſatisfied with the proceedings of the empreſs queen and her generals during the late war in Italy, entered into a defenſive treaty with France and Spain, in which were comprehended the king of the two Sicilies, the duke of Modena, the republic of Genoa, and the duke of Parma, as well for the eſtates which he then actually poſſeſſed, as for thoſe he might hereafter acquire; and their Catholic and moſt Chriſtian majeſties, by virtue of that treaty, engaged to furniſh 30,000 men to ſuch of the contracting powers as ſhould want aſſiſtance. But, leſt the concluding this treaty ſhould give umbrage to the court of England, his Sardinian majeſty ordered his miniſter there to declare, in the ſtrongeſt terms, that he intended to obſerve all his engagements with the king of Great Britain, and with the empreſs queen.

and between the kings of France, Spain, Sardinia, and other powers.

An incident, at this time, happened out of Europe, which gave the court of Great Britain ſome uneaſineſs. The Algerines, and the other pyratical ſtates of Barbary, had of late greatly infeſted the Italian trade, and by the vaſt number

Corſairs of the Regency of Algiers make prizes of

Geo. II. 1749. of veſſels they ſent out, kept the whole coaſt in alarm. That divided country not having ſtrength enough to repel their inſults, they had the preſumption to ſeize upon the Engliſh Prince Frederic packet-boat in ſailing from Liſbon, and four of their cruziers carried it to Algiers, where it was rifled of all its treaſures, amounting to upwards of 90,000l. under frivolous pretences; and after detaining it from the 12th of March to the 4th of April, ſuffered it to depart empty. As the barbarians were, even according to their own eſtabliſhed maxims, unjuſtifiable in this proceeding, captain Keppel was ordered to take the command of a ſquadron, and to proceed to Algiers to demand ſatisfaction, and likewiſe to make up ſome differences between the dey and the Engliſh, on account of ſome arrears claimed by the former. Commodore Keppel accordingly, about the 9th of Auguſt, appeared with ſeven Engliſh ſhips of war before Algiers, and had an audience of the dey, to whom he preſented his inſtructions; but receiving no ſatisfaction, he was obliged to return to Gibraltar, without attempting any thing upon the place; and ſoon after, an Algerine ambaſſador came with ſome preſents to England. This affair made a great noiſe, and the more, becauſe the Engliſh agent, or ambaſſador, at the court of Morocco, was actually then barbarouſly impriſoned, on account of ſome arrears of ranſom ſaid to be due to that prince. It afterward appeared, that the dey was forced by the ſoldiery, who in a body are his dictators as well as electors, to conſent to the confiſcation, and that it was not in his power to make any reſtitution.

The money in it reclaimed without ſucceſs.

The parliament opens.

Extract of the king's ſpeech.

On the 16th of November, the parliament opened at Weſtminſter by a ſpeech from his majeſty, the firſt paragraph of which was as follows: "It is with particular pleaſure that I now meet you in parliament, at a time when the compleat re-eſtabliſhment of a general peace has reſtored to my people the bleſſings of quiet and tranquillity. The good effects reſulting from hence, do already appear in the flouriſhing condition of our commerce, and the riſe of the public credit, which naturally lays the ſureſt foundations of an increaſe of ſtrength, and of laſting proſperity to my kingdoms. I have not failed, this ſummer, to make uſe of every opportunity of cementing and ſecuring the peace; and it is my firm reſolution to do every thing in my power for the preſervation of it, and religiouſly adhere to the engagements I have entered into."

There was little elſe particular in this ſpeech, excepting that his majeſty mentioned the good diſpoſition he found in the

the other contracting powers in the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle to preſerve the public tranquillity, and that he recommended to the two houſes, in the moſt earneſt manner, the maintaining his fleet in full ſtrength. Geo. II. 1749.

The firſt paragraph of this ſpeech gave ſome offence. The addreſs of thanks in the houſe of peers was moved for by the earl of Waldgrave, and ſeconded by the earl of Leven, and in the houſe of commons by Mr. Charles Townſhend, and ſeconded by ſir Danvers Oſborne. The addreſs of the houſe of peers met with no oppoſition, and was, as uſual, a complimental recapitulation of the ſpeech from the throne. But in the houſe of commons, the addreſs moved for, which was of the ſame nature, was objected to by ſir John Hynd Cotton, who obſerved, that the peace could not be ſaid to be compleat, without ſtipulating the article of "no ſearch" with Spain, becauſe both houſes had voted there ought to be no peace without it. Mr. Pelham, who took upon himſelf the whole ſtreſs of that day's debate on the part of the court, anſwered to this very ſtrong objection, that he never approved of that vote; that it is impoſſible times and circumſtances can be foreſeen, and that a parliament of Great Britain voted no peace, while any part of the Indies was left with Spain; and yet times and circumſtances made it afterwards expedient to make peace, without that condition being fulfilled. Several other objections and replies leſs material, followed in the debate. But the miniſtry having publiſhed their intention of reducing the intereſt upon the public funds, lord E——— made ſome ſevere remarks upon the firſt paragraph of the ſpeech, which, he ſaid, was conceived in fallacious terms, and might prevent œconomy in his majeſty, as believing the nation to be in a flouriſhing condition, whereas it was otherwiſe; and that trade was declining, and the public credit ſinking; and that all the treaties concluded amongſt the other powers of Europe, were to the diſadvantage of Great Britain. He therefore obſerved, that it was very imprudent in the miniſter, to publiſh his intention of reducing the intereſt upon the national debt, becauſe monied men might make advantage of it. Mr. Pelham gained great applauſe by the candid manner in which he treated thoſe obſervations. He ſaid, he thought it the duty of the ſervants of the crown, to eaſe the national debt as ſoon as it was practicable; to conſult upon that head with perſons of the moſt approved experience and knowledge in thoſe matters, and to publiſh the method propoſed, that if any reaſonable objections were laid to it, they might be removed. That as within three years, the 3 per cents. had

Debates on the addreſs.

Geo. II. 1749.

had risen gradually from 75, and were now at 101, he thought it a demonstration of the rise of public credit; and as an instance of the flourishing condition of commerce, the duties on imports had added to the sinking fund one million in about nine months; and, at the same time, for the great quantity of grain exported, there had been paid for bounties 221,000l. That as he should ever have a regard to those who had advanced their money to serve the government, he hoped, that a fair, honest, and equitable method would be found out to reduce the national debt, a method consonant to parliamentary faith, and also agreeable to the creditors themselves, at least such of them as are reasonable. That the method proposed is to give notice, according to the act, that after one year, the funds bearing 4 per cent. should be reduced to 3½; and such of the creditors as refused to accept of that interest to be paid off, to continue seven years at 3½, and then to be reduced to 3 per cent. That it would be a considerable advantage for every proprietor to continue 100l. at 3½ per cent. rather than be paid off; because the 3 per cents. being at 101, the person paid off must add 20s. to purchase the same stock in them; therefore if he does not receive his 100l. he will have a better bargain, and may sell it for more." Other members observed, that as none of the treaties that had been concluded on the continent had been proved to be derogatory to the honour, or prejudicial to the interest of Great Britain, they were rather proofs of the good dispositions of the several powers to maintain the peace. Upon the whole, the address was agreed to without a division.

which is carried without a division.

As the proceedings of this session were, many of them, of a nature that does not admit of their being particularised here, and others of them of the same nature with those that the reader has already seen, a minute detail of every thing that passed is not to be expected here.

Reflection.

The resolutions of the committee of supply were, in the main, the same as passed last session, though the total of the sum granted was not so great. 183,232l. was granted for making good engagements entered into, or services undertaken during the late war. The debt paid off amounted to 1,645,590l. The deficiencies to be made good amounted to 46,305l. The expences incurred, and not provided for, amounted to 249,920l. and the current service of the year to 2,115,855l. The whole, with the omitted fractions, amounting to 4,141,661l. 9s. 11½d. Many particulars of those articles underwent the same debates as formerly, and received the same answers. The two following were new articles,

Proceedings of the committee of supply.

articles, and paſſed with very little debate, on account of the promiſing ſtate of the colony, viz. "122,246l. for defraying the expence of ſervices incurred during the war in his majeſty's colonies of North America, on account of the intended expedition againſt Canada, and for other ſervices ariſing therefrom, and for the ſuccour of Nova Scotia; and the ſum of 36,476l. for defraying the charges incurred by tranſporting to his majeſty's colonies of Nova Scotia, and ſupporting and maintaining there a number of reduced officers and private men diſmiſſed his majeſty's land and ſea ſervice, and other his majeſty's ſubjects now ſettled in the ſaid colony, and not provided for by parliament." Geo. II. 1749.

It is remarkable, that though the gentlemen in the oppoſition, this ſeſſion, were againſt the number of land forces voted, which were 18,857, yet the number of ſeamen propoſed by the government being but 15,000; the ſame was objected to by the others as being too few; but no motion being made for any larger number, the ſame was agreed to without a diviſion.

Reſolution on reducing the intereſt upon the public funds.

But the great object purſued by the government this ſeſſion, was the reduction of the intereſt upon the national debt, the expediency of which was ſo clearly demonſtrated by Mr. Pelham, that, in conſequence of the reſolutions of the houſe of commons, the following advertiſement was printed in the London Gazette by authority, and is here given the reader, as exhibiting the reſult of all that was ſaid upon this important occaſion. "Reſolved, That any perſon or perſons, bodies politic or corporate, who now are, or hereafter may be, intereſted in, or intitled unto, any part of the national debt redeemable by law, incurred before Michaelmas 1749, which now carries an intereſt at the rate of 4l. per cent. per annum, and who ſhall, on or before the 28th of February 1749, ſubſcribe their names to ſignify their conſent to accept of an intereſt of 3l. per cent. per annum, to commence from the 25th day of December 1757, ſubject to the ſame proviſions, notices, and clauſes of redemption, which their reſpective 4l. per cents. are now liable to, ſhall, in lieu of their preſent intereſt, be intitled unto, and receive an intereſt of 4l. per cent. per annum, till the 25th day of December 1750, and from and after the ſaid 25th day of December 1750, an intereſt of 3l. 10s. per cent. per annum until the ſaid 25th of December 1757; and no part of the ſame, except what is due to the Eaſt-India company, ſhall be liable to be redeemed till after the ſaid 25th day of December 1757. Reſolved, Nov. 29, 1749.

Geo. II. 1749. Reſolved, That all executors, adminiſtrators, guardians, and truſtees, may ſubſcribe, and ſignify ſuch conſent for the ſeveral parts of the ſaid debt, for the holding of which their ſeveral names are made uſe of reſpectively. Reſolved, That all duties, revenues, and incomes, which now ſtand appropriated to the payment of the ſaid intereſt of 4l. per cent. per annum reſpectively, ſhall continue and be appropriated to the payment of the reſpective intereſt of 4l. per cent. per annum, 3l. 10s. per cent. per annum, in the ſame manner as the ſame now ſtand appropriated to the payment of the ſaid 4l. per cent. per annum; and that the ſurpluſſes of the ſaid funds, after the ſaid 25th day of December 1750, ſhall be made part of the ſinking fund, and applied in the ſame manner as the ſurpluſſes of the ſaid funds are now applicable. Reſolved, That books be opened at his majeſty's receipt of Exchequer, at the Bank of England, and South-Sea houſe, for receiving the ſaid ſubſcriptions or conſent. Ordered, That for the immediate taking in of the ſaid ſubſcriptions and conſent, copies of the ſaid reſolutions be forthwith tranſmitted to the auditor of the receipt of his majeſty's Exchequer, to the governor and company of the bank of England, to the united company of merchants trading to the Eaſt-Indies, and to the governor and company of merchants trading to the South-Seas and other parts of America, and for encouraging the fiſheries; and be affixed at the Royal Exchange, and be printed in the London Gazette."

This was generally looked upon to be a very bold meaſure in the miniſter, and ſome of his beſt friends, even the day before the vote paſſed in the houſe of commons, endeavoured to perſuade him againſt it. But he appeared determined, and in a few weeks they approved of his ſteadineſs, as much as before they blamed his obſtinacy. Amongſt other public-ſpirited acts of this ſeſſion, one paſſed for the encouragement of the manufacture of Britiſh ſail-cloth, which by the Iriſh underſelling the Britiſh manufacturers in that commodity, was come into great decay. In order to retrieve it, a large duty of 4d. a yard was propoſed to be laid upon all Iriſh ſail-cloth imported into Great Britain, of the value of 14d. per yard, and the bounty upon the exportation of Britiſh ſail-cloth, which before was payable out of the duty of 1d. per ell of foreign ſail-cloth imported, was payable out of the cuſtoms. The earl of Egmont, and many members who had an intereſt in Ireland, ſtrongly oppoſed the duty upon the Iriſh ſail-cloth. But all they could obtain was, that

Other acts paſſed.

The ſail-cloth act.

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the duty ſhould be continued no longer than during the time that the bounties of 2d. and 4d. per yard were paid in Ireland. Geo. II. 1749.

It was greatly to the honour of the miniſter's moderation, that this ſeſſion ſeveral queſtions, and thoſe too of importance in the government of the army, were carried againſt him; nor was it unuſual to ſee even thoſe who ſat under him at the board of treaſury, divide againſt him, even upon queſtions in which he had ſpoke with zeal, and that without their forfeiting the leaſt degree of favour. The rigours of the mutiny act had always been ſtrenuouſly ſupported by former miniſters; but in this ſeſſion, after great debate, they were mitigated. For the oath of ſecreſy taken by the members of a court-martial, was diſpenſed with, if a party was required to give evidence thereof, as a witneſs, by a court of juſtice in due courſe of law. Another material alteration was made, by rendering the ſentence given by a court-martial, reviſable no more than once. The earl of Egmont, and many other gentlemen, amongſt whom were ſeveral officers of high rank in the army, contended ſtrenuouſly, that it ſhould not be reviſable at all; and it was carried againſt them by a majority of no more than 177 againſt 125. Regulations in the mutiny act.

Another matter of national importance, which happened this ſeſſion, regarded the importation of iron from the northern countries of Europe. This affair admitted of very long and impartial debates. The queſtion was, whether pig and bar iron ought not to be imported from America duty free. The affair had been agitated before, but had always been, in tenderneſs of foreigners, who received great ſums yearly for iron out of Great Britain, diſcountenanced by the miniſtry, and had come to nothing. The arguments for the importation of American iron was, that it would diſcourage the importation of Swediſh and other iron, and thereby ſave great ſums to the ſubjects of Great Britain. On the other hand, the proprietors of furnaces and forges for making Engliſh iron repreſented by their petitions, that ſhould the importation from America take place, they themſelves muſt be great ſufferers, without the Swediſh importation being diminiſhed; becauſe the Swediſh iron was made uſe of in works for which neither the Britiſh nor American iron was fit. This laſt allegation was ſtrongly conteſted by other petitioners, who ſaid, the American bar iron was applicable to all the uſes of Swediſh iron. At laſt, after a long and tedious examination of witneſſes, and hearing of council, a bill was brought in, and after paſſing both houſes, received the royal aſſent, to encourage American iron act.

Geo. II. 1749-50. courage the importation of pig and bar iron from his majeſty's colonies in America, and to prevent the erection of any mill, or other engine, for ſlitting or rolling of iron, or any plating forge to work with a tilt hammer, or any furnace for making ſteel, in any of the ſaid colonies. It was ſaid by the oppoſers of this bill, and reported without doors, that the bill never would have paſſed, had it not been that the court of England was at that time in a very bad humour againſt the Swedes.

British fiſhery act.

During this ſeſſion, the affair of the Britiſh fiſhery was reſumed. The reader has already ſeen how the bill for encouraging it was dropt in the laſt ſeſſion, and mention has been made of the vaſt ſpirit and expectation raiſed in the nation upon that head. Numberleſs were the pamphlets and papers publiſhed during the interval, as well as ſeſſion, of parliament, concerning its importance. But ſome facts were now laid before the parliament, which exaſperated the public more than ever againſt the Dutch. For the corporation of Southwold, and the inhabitants of Loweſtoff, both in Suffolk, and both places ſubſiſting by the fiſhing trade, informed the houſe by petition, that the Dutch had, for about eight years paſt, fiſhed ſo near the ſhore, that their nets ſwept upon the ground, and thereby prevented the petitioners from fiſhing,

Petitions to forward the ſame.

as a hundred Dutch fiſhing veſſels at a time have been anchoring in their bay in two or three fathom water; and that when the petitioners complained of their foul fiſhing, they threatened to run over and ſink their boats, or tear their nets. The petition from Loweſtoff had the ſame complaints, but againſt the French as well as the Dutch. Though the miniſter had always declared himſelf, and was, in fact, a ſincere friend to the fiſhery, yet he eaſily ſaw that the intention of bringing thoſe petitions into the houſe, was to exaſperate the public further againſt the Dutch; and he complained of the indecency of bringing ſuch a matter to parliament, before it was laid before the king in council, which was the proper tribunal where they could obtain redreſs. But he owned at the ſame time, that, had it been refuſed there, the petitioners might properly have applied to parliament. Notwithſtanding this, the petitions were referred to a committee; but they did not think proper to take them into their conſideration. The committee, however, on the 14th of February, came to the following reſolutions, which next day were reported by general Oglethorpe, and agreed to by the houſe, viz. "That the carrying on the Britiſh white herring and cod fiſheries, would be of great advantage to the trade and navigation of theſe kingdoms, and that all impediments

to

to the ſame ought to be removed as much as poſſible. That as a further encouragement to all perſons whatſoever, as well bodies politic and corporate as others, to engage in the white herring and cod fiſheries, a bounty of 30s. per ton ſhould be granted, and paid out of the cuſtoms, to all new veſſels from 20 to 28 tons burthen, which ſhould be built for that purpoſe, and actually employed in the ſaid fiſhery. That for encouraging adventurers to employ their money in the ſaid fiſheries, a ſociety ſhould be incorporated, under the name of, The free Britiſh Fiſhery, by a charter, not excluſive, with power to raiſe a capital not exceeding 500,000l. and that 3l. 10s. per cent. per annum ſhould be granted and paid out of the cuſtoms to the proprietors for fourteen years, for ſo much of the capital as ſhould be actually employed in the ſaid fiſheries." Geo. II. 1749-50.

Upon thoſe reſolutions, a bill was preſented by general Oglethorpe, by order of the houſe, for the encouragement of the Britiſh herring and cod fiſheries, which after ſurmounting ſome difficulties on account of a litteral omiſſion, the bill, when it was ſent up to the lords, received the royal aſſent the ſame ſeſſion. It is incredible with what ardour the news of this bill paſſing, was received by the public. It had been patronized and promoted by men of the greateſt property and popularity in the kingdom; and admiral Vernon, who at this time profeſſed himſelf to be an enemy to the Dutch, made a voyage to Holland on purpoſe to make himſelf maſter of the manner of their carrying on the fiſheries, and curing their fiſh. The bill was no ſooner paſſed, than there was a general meeting of the perſons named in the act of parliament for encouraging the Britiſh white herring fiſhery, purſuant to an order of the lords of the regency, the king being then abroad. At this meeting the prince of Wales was choſen governor, Slingſbey Bethell, eſq; preſident, and Stephen Theodore Janſſen, eſq; vice-preſident, both of them aldermen of London. Thirty gentlemen, moſt of them members of parliament, at the ſame time were choſen as the council, and were approved of by the lords of the regency, to whom their names were preſented in terms of the act of parliament. The charter for eſtabliſhing them into a ſociety being paſt, the prince of Wales was preſented with it at fiſhmongers hall, to which he went in great ſtate, and accepted of by him as their governor. In this ſeſſion of parliament, upon a petition from the dealers and manufacturers of raw and thrown ſilks, repreſenting the

The bill paſt.

Prince of Wales the firſt governor of the ſociety.

The ſale of the ſilk.

vaſt

Geo. II. 1749-50. vaſt benefit that would accrue to the kingdom by encouraging the growth of that commodity (which of late was become exceſſively dear) in the Britiſh ſouthern colonies of America, the duties upon American ſilk imported into England were repealed by act of parliament; but, at the ſame time, out of regard to the empreſs of Ruſſia, an act paſſed for permitting raw ſilk of the produce or growth of Perſia, purchaſed in Ruſſia, to be imported into this kingdom from any port or place belonging to the empire of Ruſſia.

African trade ſettled.

The affair of the royal African company, came again under conſideration of parliament this ſeſſion, and underwent much the ſame operations as it had done the laſt. The merchants being of two contrary opinions about the moſt effectual method of ſecuring and improving it, and the queſtion being greatly conteſted, whether it ought to be carried on by a joint ſtock company, or thrown open upon the terms and reſolutions that had paſſed laſt year, the houſe ſpent ſeven days in a committee upon it. But after all, the houſe ſtood to their former reſolutions, and a bill, regulating the trade, was ordered in, and paſſed the royal aſſent.

Such were the principal bills paſſed this ſeſſion of parliament; and the friends of the miniſtry, not without reaſon, challenged all their antagoniſts to produce any ſeſſion, nay, any parliament, in which ſo many bills, for the benefit and emolument of the nation, had received the royal aſſent. Many other matters for the encouragement of trade and manufacture, ſome of which paſſed into laws, came likewiſe before parliament this ſeſſion. But though all applications of that kind were encouraged and referred to committees, yet the claſhing intereſts of ſeveral parties in ſome caſes, the impracticability in others, and in others the detriment that might accrue to the public, prevented their paſſing this ſeſſion into laws.

Other tranſactions of parliament.

As to political affairs, few of them were agitated this ſeſſion, many gentlemen who were warmly engaged in former oppoſitions, having now dropt all their jealouſy of the miniſter and his intentions. A motion was made, and complied with, for papers relating to the redemption of Britiſh captives in the empire of Morocco; but when the papers were laid before the houſe, no uſe could be made of them for impeaching the conduct of the miniſtry. A motion for papers relating to the exerciſe of the office of ordnance under its late maſter general the duke of Montague, was likewiſe made; and was thought to be levelled at an enquiry

enquiry into ſome of the management of that branch of ſervice during the late war. But this motion was rejected, by a majority of 151 againſt 63. Another motion was made by the earl of Egmont, for a perfect account to be laid before the houſe of the ſtate of the port and harbour of Dunkirk, and for the papers that had paſſed between the Britiſh and French miniſtry on that head. His lordſhip introduced this motion, with a very ſevere invective againſt the whole of the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle; but grounded his motion upon an apprehenſion, that the ſtipulation of Dunkirk, remaining on the ſea ſide on the footing of antient treaties, might be conſtrued by the French into its remaining upon the footing of treaties antecedent to that of Utrecht, by which it was to be intirely demoliſhed. His lordſhip was anſwered by Mr. Pelham, who juſtified the treaty, as being the beſt that could be obtained, after ſo unfortunate a war; and ſhewed the imprudence of provoking France at that time, when it was not ſo much as pretended to have been guilty of any wilful infraction of the peace. A very hot debate enſued upon this; but at laſt a negative was put upon the motion, by a majority of 242 againſt 115. Geo. II. 1749-50.

Weſtminſter election.

During the whole of this ſeſſion, the city of Weſtminſter, and indeed the public in general, were in a dreadful conſternation on account of the election for that city. Lord Trentham, eldeſt ſon to earl Gower, its repreſentative, had been made a lord of the admiralty, by which his election became vacant; but having declared himſelf again a candidate, he met with a powerful opponent in the perſon of ſir George Vandeput, a private gentleman, who was vigorouſly ſupported by the intereſt of the prince of Wales, and all thoſe electors who went under the name of independents. An incident happened at that very time which, were it not for the great conſequences it had, would be too inconſiderable for hiſtory to relate. Some French players having got liberty to act on a theatre in the Haymarket, were pelted by the generality of the audience; but ſome young noblemen and gentlemen being incautious enough to draw their ſwords and take their parts, it was affirmed in print, and even certified by affidavits, that lord Trentham was of the number, and that he drew his ſword upon the audience. Though the whole of this allegation was an infamous falſehood, and was afterwards proved to be ſuch, yet it is incredible how ſtrongly it operated to lord Trentham's prejudice in the election, which continued for an unuſual number of days. But his lordſhip having

Geo. II. 1749-50. having a majority upon the poll, the other candidate demanded a ſcrutiny, which was granted by the high bailiff, the returning officer. This, when the voters on each ſide were between 4 and 5000, proved a matter of great difficulty, and was carried on by both ſides with ſuch animoſity, that though the election begun on the 22d of November, the high bailiff had made no return of the writ on the 22d of February, as it was notorious that he met with vaſt obſtructions in the exerciſe of his office. Mr. Fox, on that day, moved the houſe, that the clerk of the crown, the meſſenger extraordinary attending the great ſeal, the under ſheriff of the county of Middleſex, and the high bailiff of Weſtminſter, ſhould attend next morning, to give an account of the iſſuing, delivering, and executing the writ. Had it not been for the prudence of Mr. Pelham, and ſome moderate members, a very violent reſolution would have been moved for on this occaſion. But the high bailiff aſſuring the houſe he was making all the diſpatch in his power, and would continue to do ſo, he was diſmiſſed from the bar, after receiving a proper admonition from the ſpeaker, and being enjoined to apply to the houſe, if he met with any obſtruction. This affair, next ſeſſion, made a great noiſe.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

Tranſactions with the French court—Two ſhocks of earthquakes—Parliament riſes—The king goes abroad—Fatal ſeſſion at the Old Baily—Death of the king of Portugal—Treaty between England and Spain—King's ſpeech at the opening of the parliament in 1751—Debates on the addreſs—Proceedings on the Weſtminſter election—Mr. Crowle reprimanded—Mr. Murray ſent to Newgate for refuſing to kneel at the bar of the houſe of commons—Money committees—Debates—Death and farther character of the prince of Wales—King's meſſage to both houſes for ſettling a regency—A bill for that purpoſe paſſes both houſes—Naturalization bill—Caſe of the Scotch clergy before parliament—End of the ſeſſion—Deaths and characters of the prince of Orange and the queen of Denmark—State of affairs on the continent—Death and character of the king of Sweden—King's ſpeech at the opening of the ſeſſion of parliament—Mr. Murray's caſe—Licencing of public meeting act—The Scotch forfeitures veſted in the king for the benefit of the Highlands—All the funds reduced into one—Farther proceedings of parliament—Seſſion ends—Death and character at large of lord Bolingbroke—Sir Peter Warren choſen an alderman of London—Practice of deſtroying enſured ſhips—Foreign affairs—Caſe of the Sileſia loan ſeized upon by his Pruſſian majeſty—Parliament ſits—Money granted—Quarentine—Shipwreck—Turkey trade—Edinburgh—Licencing alehouſes—Broad wheel—and Jew naturalization acts—The marriage act—Regiſter bill—Hiſtory of the act for the Britiſh muſeum—King's ſpeech at the cloſe of the ſeſſion—Caſe of the impoſtor Elizabeth Canning—Doctor Cameron executed—Tumults—State of the diſpute between France and England in America—Parliament meets—The Jew bill repealed—Sir John Barnard's motion for aboliſhing oaths at Elections—Mr. L—. fined—King's ſpeech at the end of the parliament.

THE earl of Albemarle, at this time, reſided as ambaſſador extraordinary from the court of Great Britain to France. He was a good officer, had an excellent addreſs, Geo. II. 1750.

Geo. II. 1750.

Tranſactions with the court of France.

was humane, gentle, and magnificent in his manner. Thoſe qualifications recommended him as a proper ambaſſador to the French court at this time; and the marquis de Mirepoix, the French ambaſſador at the Engliſh court, was a man of much the ſame character. When each was ſent to the court he was to reſide at, it was thought their embaſſies were matters of mere form and compliment; and for ſome time they continued ſo. The earl of Albemarle was highly careſſed by the French monarch, and the marquis de Mirepoix acquired great regard and eſteem by his behaviour in England. In all matters of indifference, the French court ſhewed itſelf very ready to oblige the earl of Albemarle. He particularly complained of their kalendar, in which the young pretender to the crown of England was mentioned in a manner offenſive to the Engliſh government. His complaint was no ſooner exhibited, than that court ordered the author of the kalendar to be ſent to the baſtile, and the work to be ſuppreſſed; and a charge was given to the licencers of the preſs, to take ſpecial care not to ſuffer any thing to be printed which might give offence to the powers with which France was at peace. An equal complaiſance was ſhown at the Engliſh court to the marquis de Mirepoix, but with very different views: for the French, upon recovering Louiſburgh, had laid a ſcheme (the particulars of which ſhall be exhibited in their due place) for engroſſing the whole empire of North America, and in a manner for extirpating the Engliſh intereſt there. Notice of this was, ſoon after the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, given to the Engliſh government, by their governors in America; and proper inſtructions were diſpatched to them, to reſiſt all incroachments attempted to be made upon the Engliſh territories. The earl of Albemarle had orders from his court, to remonſtrate upon this occaſion. But to the misfortune of England, his lordſhip was no deep politician, and his remonſtrances had ſo little effect, that the French were rather encouraged in, than deterred from their uſurpations. The Engliſh governors in America daily ſent over complaints of the French encroachments there, which were but too little regarded, in hopes of matters being compromiſed; for which purpoſe Mr. Shirley, governor of the province of Maſachuſetts Bay, and Mr. Mildmay, were appointed commiſſioners for ſettling and determining the points to be adjuſted between the crowns of England and France in America. They were to meet the French commiſſioners at Paris; but the public in general had a very indifferent opinion of the whole of this negotiation.

The

The French, however, leſt the jealouſy of England ſhould be too much awakened, ordered the marquis de Caylus to evacuate the iſland of Tobago; and this order, which never was faithfully complied with, was publiſhed with great oſtentation. Geo. II. 1750.

While thoſe affairs were in ſuſpence, England was thrown into the utmoſt conſternation by two ſhocks of an earthquake, which happened in the months of February and March; though neither of them were violent, yet the thing being unuſual, it is impoſſible to deſcribe the terror and amazement that ſeized upon the minds of the people upon this occaſion: and their conſternation was improved by a hair-brain'd enthuſiaſt, who pretended to foretell a third earthquake, which was to lay all London and Weſtminſter in ruins. It had, however, the good effect to turn their attention from politics to prayers, and, for ſome time, the churches could ſcarce contain the number who reſorted to them. The biſhop of London, in particular, wrote paſtoral letters upon this occaſion; and the truth is, the common people of England never were known to be ſo licentious, and ſo much immerſed in luxury of all kinds, as they were at this time. The fit of devotion, which ſo much crowded the churches, did not, indeed, laſt long; but it left behind it impreſſions which wrought a viſible amendment upon their manners. Shocks of an earthquake.

On the 12th of April, his majeſty put an end to the ſeſſion of parliament by his ſpeech, in which there was nothing particular, but his thanking the members for laying hold of the very firſt opportunity to reduce the intereſt of the national debt, without the leaſt infringment upon parliamentary faith. "The ſucceſs, continued he, which has always attended this wiſe meaſure, is a proof of the preſent credit of this kingdom, and has laid a ſure foundation for the continuance of it; and cannot fail to add ſtrength and reputation to my government, both at home and abroad." Soon after this, his majeſty declared his intention to go abroad, and nominated the following perſons to be lords juſtices in his abſence, viz. Thomas lord archbiſhop of Canterbury; Philip lord Hardwicke, lord chancellor; Lionel duke of Dorſet, lord preſident; John earl Gower, lord privy-ſeal; Charles duke of Marlborough, lord ſteward; Charles duke of Grafton, lord chamberlain; Charles duke of Richmond, maſter of the horſe; John duke of Bedford, one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate; Archibald duke of Argyle; Thomas King's ſpeech at the cloſe of the ſeſſion. Names of the regency.

Geo. II. 1750. Holles, duke of Newcaſtle, one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate; John earl of Sandwich, firſt commiſſioner of the admiralty; William earl of Harrington, lord lieutenant of Ireland, and Henry Pelham, eſq; firſt commiſſioner of the treaſury.

Domeſtic affairs. During his majeſty's abſence, many of the late rioters, in cutting down the turnpikes in the weſt of England, were tried. But, though the evidence againſt many of them was very clear and full, yet very few of them were convicted, the juries being generally prepoſſeſſed in their favour. Never were the jails all over England, known to be more crowded than they were at this time with malefactors. In

Fatal ſeſſion at the Old Baily. May this year, the priſon of Newgate in London, contracted an infection from the number and ſtench of the priſoners confined there, which, at the ſittings at the Old Bailey, proved fatal to ſir Samuel Pennant, lord mayor of London, ſir Daniel Lambert, an alderman, Mr. Clark, a baron of the Exchequer, ſir Thomas Abney, a judge of the Common Pleas, many of the lawyers who attended the ſeſſions, the greateſt part of the jury, and a great number of other perſons. The prevailing degeneracy of the times, was, perhaps, juſtly attributed to the reduction of the army upon the return of the forces from abroad. In all other reſpects, this

A ſon born to the prince of Wales. year was barren of public events in England. A ſon was born to the prince of Wales, on the 13th of May, who was baptized by the name of Frederic William, and their royal highneſſes received the uſual congratulations upon the ſame. The attention of the public was more and more turned to the improvement of the fiſheries, and ſeveral veſſels for that purpoſe were built and launched with extraordinary acclamations and ceremony.

Death of the king of Portugal. As to foreign affairs, little relating to England happened, but the death of the king of Portugal on the 31ſt of July. He was a prince of a pacific, beneficent, diſpoſition, but greatly under the influence of his father confeſſor. He was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon Joſeph, who proves to be of a more active diſpoſition; but both of them equally friends to England, upon whoſe protection the independency of their crown reſts. During his majeſty's abſence from England, the elector of Bavaria concluded a ſubſidy treaty with England and Holland, by which he engaged himſelf to keep on foot 6000 troops for their ſervice, but not to be employed againſt the emperor, or the empire, in conſideration of his receiving

3 40,000 l.

40,000 l. a year, one third of which was to be paid by the States General. Geo. II. 1750.

On the 24th of October, a meſſenger arrived in England, with a definitive treaty, concluded, in conſequence of the peace of Aix-la-chapelle, between Mr. Keene, his Britannic majeſty's plenipotentiary, and don Joſeph Carvajal and Lancaſter, his Catholic majeſty's miniſter of ſtate. Treaty between England and Spain. The principal articles of this treaty were, "1ſt The king of Spain engages to pay the South ſea company, within the ſpace of three months, the ſum of 100,000l. ſterling, by way of indemnification, as well for the non execution of the Aſſiento treaty of the 13th of March 1713, as to make them amends for the four years in which they did not ſend out their annual ſhips. 2d, As to the trade and navigation of the Engliſh in the ports of the king of Spain's dominions, the treaties of 1667 and 1670, that of Utrecht of the year 1713, the 1ſt, 4th, 5th, and 7th articles of the treaty of 1715, and that of 1721, ſhall be punctually obſerved and executed. 3d, Conſequently the ſhips that trade in the ports of his Catholic majeſty, ſhall pay no other duties for the goods they import or export, than ſuch as they paid in the reign of Charles II. of Spain. 4th, The ſubjects of Great Britain, in the places where they ſhall come to traffic, ſhall pay only the ſame duties as are laid on the ſubjects of his Catholic majeſty, who means, that the Engliſh ſhall be treated in his dominions, on the ſame footing as the nations moſt favoured. And moreover, they ſhall continue to enjoy the privilege of taking in ſalt at the iſland of Tortuga, which is poſſeſſed by the Spaniards."

The reader will eaſily perceive, that this treaty fell far ſhort of what the nation had a right to expect from Spain; no poſitive ſtipulation againſt ſearching Britiſh ſhips in America, which had given riſe to the late war, having been made in it. That claim was now treated as being chimerical. The vaſt benefit which Great Britain every day received by her commerce with Spain, made the Britiſh miniſtry more tractable on this head; and indeed there was, at this time, a remarkable good correſpondence between the two courts. The great meaſure which his Britannic majeſty had in view while he was abroad, was the election of the archduke Joſeph, eldeſt ſon of the emperor and the empreſs queen, to be king of the Romans. His majeſty's endeavours for electing the emperor's ſon king of the Romans. Though his majeſty had this election greatly at heart, yet it met with much oppoſition; the king of Pruſſia, and the French party in the empire, having a ma-

Geo II. 1750-51. jority in the diet, through which, they inſiſted, the propoſal muſt paſs, before it could be brought before the electors. The king of Spain having ſome intereſt in the Germanic body, Mr. Keene laid before him the ſteps his maſter had taken to ſecure and haſten this election; but his application met with a very cool reception.

It was the 4th of November before his majeſty returned to his Britiſh dominions, upon which he was complimented by the city of London. But it was the 17th of January before the parliament was opened. His majeſty, in his ſpeech, informed both houſes, "That he had poſtponed their meeting to this time, that he might conſult their private conveniencies, as far as was conſiſtent with the occaſions of the public. That ſince the laſt ſeſſion, his care had been conſtantly employed in improving the preſent tranquillity; and he had the ſatisfaction to acquaint them, that he had concluded a treaty with his good brother the king of Spain, whereby ſuch particular differences as from the nature of them could not be ſettled in a general treaty, had been amicably adjuſted, without the intervention of any other party, and the commerce of this nation with that country re-eſtabliſhed upon the moſt advantageous and ſure foundations. That in the progreſs of this work, he had received ſuch aſſurances of the good diſpoſition of the Catholic king to cement and maintain a moſt perfect union, as left no room to doubt of its good effects being felt in all parts; and that there was the greateſt reaſon to hope, that the antient friendſhip between the two nations, would, from mutual intereſt and inclination, be now effectually reſtored. That he had alſo, in conjunction with the empreſs queen and the States General, concluded a treaty with the elector of Bavaria, and was taking ſuch further meaſures as might beſt tend to ſtrengthen and ſecure the tranquillity of the empire, ſupport its ſyſtem, and timely prevent ſuch events as had been found by experience to endanger the common cauſe, involve Europe in the calamities of war, and occaſion the loſs of much blood and treaſure to theſe kingdoms. That both theſe treaties ſhould be laid before them; and that he had received from all the other contracting powers in the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the moſt full and clear declarations of their reſolution to preſerve the general peace; and that he had taken care to ſtrengthen and conſolidate the ties of union and friendſhip between him and his allies, the better to ſecure their mutual intereſts, maintain the peace already ſubſiſting, and to prevent the occaſion of any future rupture." His majeſty

1751. King's ſpeech at the opening of the parliament.

majeſty then concluded with an exhortation to unanimity, and recommending to them the improving the trade and commerce of the kingdom, and ſuppreſſing ſuch outrages and violences, which are inconſiſtent with good order and government, and endanger the lives and properties of his ſubjects."

Geo. II. 1750-51.

Both houſes returned addreſſes upon this ſpeech full of the moſt loyal profeſſions. That from the houſe of lords, 'met with no oppoſition.' The addreſs from the commons, which was moved for by Horatio Walpole, junr. and ſeconded by Mr. Proby, was ſtrongly oppoſed by the earl of Egmont, who was againſt inſerting in it any thing that appeared to be an approbation of foreign meaſures. In this he was ſupported by Mr. Henley, ſince lord keeper, Mr. Bathurſt, who was ſoon after made a judge of the court of Common-pleas, general Oglethorpe, ſir John Hynd Cotton, Mr. Martin, Mr. Dodington, Mr. Potter, doctor Lee, and others. But the addreſs being ſupported by Mr. Pelham, Mr. Walpole, Mr. Pitt, and others, the amendment offered was rejected, by a majority of 203 againſt 74.

Debates on the addreſs.

During the receſs of parliament, matters had been carried on with great acrimony in Weſtminſter, between the friends of lord Trentham, and thoſe of ſir George Vandeput. The ſcrutiny was eagerly purſued on both ſides, and it was with difficulty the high bailiff, and the moſt moderate on each ſide, could prevent matters ſometimes from coming to blows. Each party was attended with managers, council, and friends; and all the various arts that could be deviſed, either by craft or violence, were made uſe of on both ſides to eſtabliſh and ſet aſide votes. The party of ſir George, was the loudeſt and the moſt boiſterous; and the high bailiff, during the whole ſitting, appeared to be moſt in their intereſt, which gave him ſo much credit with the mob, that matters were kept tolerably quiet. But after the charge that was laid upon the high bailiff by the houſe of commons, to complain to them if he met with any obſtructions, lord Trentham's party, who were conſcious they had a majority upon the whole of about 170, had the ſpirit to puſh for a deciſion, as well knowing that whatever return the high bailiff might make, they ſhould be able to carry the election in the houſe. The high bailiff, it was thought, had his reaſons for not hurrying the determination; and Mr. Crowle, who was one of the council on behalf of ſir George Vandeput, being a very warm man, had made uſe of many irritating expreſſions, which the other party threatened to complain of.

Proceedings upon the Weſtminſter election.

Geo. II. 1750-51. The matter, however, was kept in agitation during all the ſeſſion; but no ſooner were the Tower guns fired upon its being finiſhed, than Mr. Crowle told his antagoniſt, that their threatnings now were but "bruta fulmina," as the houſe had no further any power. This, and a great many other exaſperating expreſſions, paſſed; but when the high bailiff, contrary to the expectation of ſir George and his friends, returned lord Trentham, the behaviour of the other party became more indecent and provoking than ever; and two petitions were preſented to the houſe againſt lord Trentham's election, one from ſir George's electors, and another from himſelf, both of them complaining, in very ſevere terms, of the high bailiff's injuſtice and partiality. Upon this, lord Trentham, who had now taken his ſeat, produced letters from the heads of ſir George Vandeput's party, dated the very night before the return was made, directed to the high bailiff, and greatly commending the firmneſs and impartiality of his proceeding. His lordſhip, at the ſame time, inſiſted, for his own vindication, that the matter ſhould be brought before the houſe, and both parties were ordered to be heard on the 6th of February.

In the mean while, a motion was made for calling upon the high bailiff, to know what he had done, in conſequence See p. 416. of the injunction laid upon him by the houſe, during the laſt ſeſſion. This motion was objected to, as being irregular, becauſe the end of that injunction had been anſwered, and the member, on whoſe account it was made, was actually ſitting in the houſe. But to this it was replied, that no return had been made from the time the injunction was laid on, to the end of the ſeſſion; and therefore the houſe having been ſo long deprived of a member, it was proper to enquire into the reaſon. As no complaint, however, had been made, it muſt be acknowledged, that this was a very unuſual way of proceeding, and that it was meant as a prelude to a cenſure, which could not regularly be otherwiſe inflicted. The high bailiff, who was attending in the lobby, was ordered to be called in; and upon his being examined, he informed the houſe, that the election had been protracted by affected delays. He was then deſired to name the parties. This occaſioned a very warm debate. The earl of Egmont, Mr. Henley, and a great many other gentlemen, objected to the propriety of the queſtion, which, they ſaid, was premature, as the merits of the election were to be heard at the bar of the houſe, when the queſtion would come properly before them. There was, undoubtedly, great ſtrength in this argument; but lord

Trentham's

Trentham's friends had been ſecretly apprized, that Vande- Geo. II.
put's party intended to withdraw their petition, in which 1730-51.
caſe, the method propoſed was the only one by which the
delinquents could be brought to cenſure. At laſt, the earl of
Egmont moved for the order of the day; but the motion be-
ing carried in the negative, the queſtion was repeated to the
high bailiff. He named Mr. Crowle, the honourable Alex-
ander Murray, brother to the lord Elibank, and one
Gibſon, an upholſterer, as the perſons who had been the moſt
forward to obſtruct him in the exerciſe of his office. Upon
this, after a long debate, all the three were ordered to at-
tend with the high bailiff, who was to make good his charge
againſt them on the 31ſt of January. The defence which
Mr. Crowle made againſt the charge, was, in point of elo-
quence and propriety, far beyond what was expected of him;
but it did not avail him. The majority of the houſe were
convinced, that he had, in fact, been guilty of ſome inſolent
expreſſions, and he was ordered to receive a reprimand from
the ſpeaker on his knees, which he accordingly did. When
Mr. Murray was brought to the bar of the houſe, February 1, Caſe of Mr. Murray.
he was charged by the high bailiff with a riotous behaviour
when the ſcrutiny was over, and with threatning him and
committing other acts of violence, after the return was made.
Mr. Murray deſired to be heard by his council, which was
granted him, the ſame indulgence being given to the high
bailiff. In the mean time, a motion was made for putting
Mr. Murray into the cuſtody of the ſerjeant at arms; but
that he might give ſuch bail for his appearance, as the ſpeak-
er ſhould approve of. A great many of lord Trentham's
friends, Mr. Pelham in particular, were far from being clear
as to the equity of this motion; and ſome of them privately
diſapproved of it, as being, in fact, puniſhing a perſon be-
fore he was proved to be guilty, or even heard in his own
defence. Various caſes, in the inferior courts of judicature,
were urged againſt this proceeding. But lord Coke, and ſe-
veral of the young nobility, inſiſted ſo ſtrenuouſly upon the
commitment, that the ordinary forms of juſtice in inferior
courts were diſpenſed with; and it was ordered he ſhould be
committed, and that the charge againſt him, which was to
be delivered to him in writing, by the high bailiff, ſhould be
heard upon the 6th of February. Mr. Murray, accordingly,
was taken into cuſtody, and gave bail for his appearance;
and the houſe proceeded to the cenſure of Gibſon, who,
upon a charge of the ſame nature being given in againſt him
by the high bailiff, was, that ſame night, committed priſoner

to

Geo. II. 1750-51. to Newgate. Upon the 6th of February, the day after that appointed for hearing council for the petitions againſt the ſitting member, the conſideration of Mr. Murray's caſe was reſumed; his council was heard, as was the high bailiff for himſelf, and ſeveral witneſſes were examined; ſome of them gentlemen of fortune and character, who ſeemed, indeed, to diſprove the whole of the charge againſt Mr. Murray. Notwithſtanding this, the houſe, after a very long debate, came to the following reſolution: "That it appears to that houſe, that the honourable Alexander Murray, eſq; on May 15 laſt, being the day of a return of a member to ſerve in parliament for the city of Weſtminſter, attended by a mob, did, before the return was made, come to the houſe of Mr. Badwin, the deputy high bailiff of the ſaid city, and then and there declared, in a menacing and inſulting manner, that he, and a thouſand more, had ſworn, that the high bailiff ſhould make his return in the middle of Covent Garden, and not in the portico: that he was a fool he had not ordered the iron rails before the portico, to be cut down the night before; for that he had adviſed with council, that if he had done it, and had not taken the rails away, it would have been only a treſpaſs; and that for 100 or 150l. they might have been made good again; and that had it not been for ſome faint-hearted fellows, it would have been done, or words to that effect: and the ſaid Alexander Murray, immediately after the ſaid return was made, appeared in Covent Garden church-yard, while the returning officer was in the veſtry, near the place where the return was made, at the head of a mob, who appeared to be for ſir George Vandeput, and did then utter words exciting and inflaming the ſaid multitude to inſult and murder the ſaid returning officer; and afterwards, as the returning officer was going away, the ſaid Alexander Murray perſevering in his wicked purpoſes, did, at the head of the ſaid mob, again incite them to acts of violence, ſaying, with imprecations, will nobody knock the dog down, will nobody kill the dog, or words to that effect."

Reſolution againſt him.

This motion being agreed to after a diviſion of 152 againſt 69, the houſe came to another reſolution, that Mr. Murray ſhould be committed cloſe priſoner to Newgate; and another reſolution paſſed, that he ſhould be brought to the bar of the houſe, to receive his ſentence upon his knees. All thoſe reſolutions occaſioned violent debates, and many gentlemen, who had always voted for the miniſtry, left the houſe on this occaſion. It was thought, that lord Coke, and others of the young members, had ſome intimation, that Mr. Murray (which

(which indeed was fact) had declared he would not ſubmit to kneel at the bar of the houſe, which was the reaſon why this act of humiliation was added to his cenſure. Mr. Pelham was afterwards heard to blame ſome of them, for concealing that intimation from him; for, had he known it, he would have been againſt the queſtion. When Mr. Murray was brought to the bar, he accordingly refuſed to kneel, which greatly alarmed all the moderate members, who, like Mr. Pelham, had ſuffered the motion to paſs as a matter of form. After the reſolution was taken, they could not diſpenſe with the priſoner's kneeling, and his former crime was aggravated by his obſtinacy, while the honour of the houſe called aloud to be vindicated. On the other hand, the young members were at a loſs how to proceed, as the houſe could inflict no ſeverer puniſhment than impriſonment. Some of the moſt violent mentioned a ſeverer kind of impriſonment, than that of being committed to Newgate, and a committee was even appointed to conſider what methods might be proper to be taken by the houſe in relation to Mr. Murray's contempt. In the mean while, they reſolved, "That having, in a moſt inſolent and audacious manner, at the bar of that houſe, abſolutely refuſed to be upon his knees, as required by their former reſolution, was a high and moſt dangerous contempt of the authority and privilege of that houſe; in conſequence of which it was ordered, that he ſhould be committed cloſe priſoner to Newgate, in order to his forth coming, to abide ſuch orders as ſhould be made by that houſe in relation to his ſaid contempt; and that while there, he ſhould not be allowed the uſe of pen, ink, or paper, nor any perſon admitted to have acceſs to him, without the leave of the houſe." Mr. Murray, accordingly, that very night, or rather morning, for it was near one before the houſe broke up, was carried to Newgate.

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He refuſes to kneel at the bar,

and is ſent to Newgate.

This caſe became now intereſting, and his friends diſcovered a kind of triumph, when ſir Wm. Yonge reported from the committee, that there was no precedent of the power the houſe had to inflict any ſeverer puniſhment upon him, than what he was then undergoing. The opinions of the public were divided with regard to his conduct; ſome called it firmneſs, and others obſtinacy. But it is certain the whole of it was owing to himſelf, without the advice or participation of any one. Upon his being committed, ſome of his relations were indulged by the houſe to have acceſs to him; and his health appearing to be in danger, the houſe, upon the report of a phyſician who was allowed to viſit him, offered

to

Geo. II. 1750-51.

to remove him from Newgate into the cuſtody of the ſerjeant at arms. But he had the reſolution to reject the offer, and to continue in Newgate till the end of the ſeſſion, which delivered him from his confinement. It was obſerved, that he made a kind of triumphal proceſſion from Newgate to his own houſe, to which he was attended by the ſheriffs of London, a large train of coaches, and the acclamations of the populace of his party.

Proceedings of the money committees.

The affair of the reduction of the public intereſt, which Mr. Pelham, in the laſt ſeſſion of parliament, had carried through with ſo much firmneſs and reſolution, had ſucceeded perfectly well at laſt, though at firſt it met with ſome oppoſition from the public companies. The money granted this year for paying off public debts, was 2,525,023l. that for making good deficiencies, in which are included all ſums for replacing to the ſinking fund the like ſums paid out of the ſame, amounted to 245,575l. the expences incurred, and not provided for, amounted to 107,267l. and the money granted for the current ſervice of the year, amounted to 2,061,998l. the whole, including the fractions, amounted to 4,939,865l. 10s. 11½d. The ſum granted by the committee of ways and means to raiſe this ſum, exceeded it by 185,158l. In the committee, however, ſome debates happened of a pretty extraordinary nature; for by a reſolution of the committee of ſupply, no more than 8000 ſeamen were provided for the ſervice of the current year, upon which 10,000 were moved for. The number of 8000 was ſtrenuouſly ſupported by Mr. Pelham, Mr. Fox, and lord Barrington, as being ſufficient in the then pacific ſtate of affairs in Europe. But in this queſtion, the gentlemen who were in the oppoſition were joined by Mr. Wm. Pitt. At laſt the queſtion being put, it was carried for the number of 8000, by a majority of 167 againſt 107. The argument which had the greateſt weight for the ſmalleſt number, beſides the frugality of the meaſure, was the expediency of leaving as many ſailors as poſſible in the merchants ſervice, which had been ſo much diſtreſſed by the late war. The number of troops voted this year for the land ſervice of Great Britain, were 18,857 effective men; and it was propoſed by the gentlemen of the oppoſition, that the reduction ſhould be made in the army, and not in the navy. Though this bore a long debate, yet it was carried in the negative, by a majority of 205 againſt 88. Another debate happened, about allowing 30,000l. for making good his majeſty's engagements with the elector of Bavaria; but that likewiſe was carried by the court. Some other debates happened

Debates upon the number of ſeamen.

Diviſion.

Other debates.

happened with regard to the revenue, but few or none of them were attended by any diviſion. The land-tax this year was 3s. in the pound; and ſome gentlemen were for reducing it to two, but it did not ſucceed. Geo. II. 1750-51.

about the military oath.

A great many gentlemen, very well affected to the government, continued ſtill to be uneaſy about the military oath; and lord Egmont propoſed, that the ſame oath ſhould be taken by regimental, as well as general, courts-martial. But this propoſal was rejected, by a majority of 137 to 74. The reviſal of the ſentences of courts martial, occaſioned another long debate this ſeſſion; ſir George Lee, Mr. Fazakerley, doctor Lee, the earl of Egmont, and many of the lawyers of the houſe, were of opinion, that no ſentence, after it was duly ſigned by the preſident, ought to be reviſable at all. But after a long debate, the houſe made no alteration in what had been done before, and it continued to ſtand, reviſable for once, by a majority of 137 againſt 74.

Death of the prince of Wales.

While thoſe diſputes happened in parliament, the nation ſuffered a moſt dreadful blow by the death of Frederic prince of Wales, on the 20th of March, about 10 at night. His royal highneſs had catched cold in his gardens at Kew about three weeks before, and having neglected it, it was increaſed, on the 12th of March, by his coming very warm from the houſe of peers in his chair with the windows open. This threw him into a pleuriſy, which his phyſicians were far from apprehending to be mortal, and upon proper applications being made, he was judged to be in a fair way of recovery till the very hour before his death; when a large abſceſs upon his lungs, which had been long gathering, was ſuppoſed to burſt, and to be the immediate cauſe of his death.

See Vol. XX. p. 356.

His farther character.

To what has been already ſaid of the character of his royal highneſs, it may be here added, that no prince had been ever known to diſcover a greater ſollicitude than he did for acquiring a true knowledge of the conſtitution and intereſts of Great Britain. He made it his ſtudy to ſearch for thoſe who were eminent in knowledge of every kind. When they were independent, he rewarded them by his friendſhip and his confidence; and when their circumſtances required it, by his patronage and munificence. He had ſtudied the ſpirit of the laws of England to a much greater preciſion than was commonly imagined, or can be well conceived, conſidering the avocations he had. He was at great pains to acquire a taſte in the fine arts, eſpecially thoſe in which the Engliſh excelled; and ſeveral poets of great

Geo. II. 1750-51.

great fame and reputation were privately penſioned by his liberality, as well as other writers of merit. Some time before his death, he had acquired a true notion of the ſtate and views of the ſeveral parties in court and parliament, and he had lived long enough to perceive, from his own experience, that all oppoſition commonly terminated in intereſt. This, it was generally believed by thoſe who knew him beſt, had he lived longer, would have induced him to have purſued a different conduct than what ſome, for their own ends in certain points, had perſwaded him to obſerve. He was a pattern of conjugal and parental tenderneſs, and was uſed to tell thoſe he was moſt intimate with, that he thought it the greateſt happineſs of his life, that his princeſs was formed, in all reſpects, to what his affections could wiſh, and that he believed he ſhould have loved her, had ſhe been of the humbleſt ſtation. Some days before his death, but without having any preſentiment of it, he embraced his eldeſt ſon with great tenderneſs, and with this expreſſion, "Come, George, let us be good friends while we are ſuffered to be ſo." The underſtanding reader needs no comment upon this remarkable ſaying; and his royal highneſs uſed to obſerve with ſome concern, that the eldeſt ſons of his family were ſeldom known to live long in good correſpondence with their fathers. Towards the latter part of his life, he had given great application to the ſtudy of commerce, and embraced every opportunity of patronizing and protecting every plan that was found for its advantage. In the year 1745, he ſhowed an extream ardour to have headed the troops that were ſent againſt the rebels. But his majeſty, perhaps for very wiſe reaſons, diſapproved of his requeſt; nor did he, ſo far as it was known, ever manifeſt any martial diſpoſition but upon that occaſion. Though his family was very large, and his court ſplendid, yet his oeconomy was ſurprizing; and the private debt he left behind him, was far leſs than it was generally believed to be. His iſſue were five ſons and three daughters [a], and the princeſs was far advanced in her pregnancy at the time of his death. The mourning for him was

[a] Viz. princeſs Auguſta, born July 31, 1737; prince George, born May 24, 1738, who ſucceeded his royal father as heir apparent to the crown of theſe realms, &c. prince Edward Auguſtus, born March 14, 1738-9; princeſs Elizabeth Caroline, born December 30, 1740; prince William Henry, born November 14, 1743; prince Henry Frederick, born October 27, 1745; princeſs Louiſa Anne, born March 8, 1748-9; and prince Frederick William, born May 13, 1750.

general

general and ſincere, and all ranks and degrees bewailed his loſs as a public calamity. Geo. II. 1751.

The death of the prince of Wales, intirely altered the ſtate of parties in England. The tender affection which his majeſty expreſſed towards the princeſs and her children, and the reſpectful duty with which they behaved to him, made a wonderful impreſſion upon all ranks and degrees, and every diſtinction of party appeared, all of a ſudden, to be aboliſhed. A very important queſtion, however, was ſoon laid before parliament in the following meſſage, which was ſent by his majeſty on the 26th of April. "George Rex, His majeſty having it entirely at heart to ſecure the future welfare and happineſs of his people, has maturely conſidered, that nothing can conduce ſo much (under the protection of divine providence) to the preſervation of the proteſtant ſucceſſion in the royal family, and the ſupport of the religion, laws, and liberties of theſe kingdoms (which have been always moſt dear to him) as the making proper proviſions for the care and tuition of the perſon of his ſucceſſor, and for the regular adminiſtration of the government, in ſuch caſe his ſucceſſor ſhould be of tender years; by means whereof their ſafety and princely education may be ſecured, the public peace and good order maintained, and the ſtrength and glory of the crown of Great Britain ſuffer no diminution. For theſe reaſons his majeſty, out of his paternal affection and tenderneſs for his royal family, and for all his faithful ſubjects, earneſtly recommends it to both houſes of parliament to take this weighty affair into their moſt ſerious deliberation; and propoſes to their conſideration, that when the imperial crown of theſe realms ſhall deſcend to any of the iſſue of his ſon the late prince of Wales, being under the age of 18 years, the princeſs dowager of Wales, their mother, ſhould be guardian of the perſon of ſuch ſucceſſor, and regent of theſe kingdoms, until they ſhall attain ſuch age, with ſuch powers and limitations as ſhall appear neceſſary and expedient for theſe important purpoſes."

King's meſſage to both houſes about ſettling a regency.

Both houſes joined in an addreſs, which was full of the warmeſt ſentiments of duty and loyalty, in anſwer to this meſſage; wherein they promiſed to take the matter into conſideration. On the 7th of May, the duke of Newcaſtle preſented to the houſe of peers a bill to provide for the adminiſtration of the government, in caſe the crown ſhould deſcend to any of the children of his late royal highneſs the prince of Wales, being under the age of 18 years, and for the care and guardianſhip of their perſons. This bill, upon

A bill for that purpoſe paſſes the houſe of peers,

Geo. II. 1751. reading it, appeared to be a matter not only of the greateſt conſequence, but of the greateſt difficulty. Some of the moſt learned men in the kingdom, propoſed a council of regency to be joined with her royal highneſs in the executive part of the government, and the ſame was recommended by his majeſty in a ſecond meſſage, while others of equal conſideration were for having her royal highneſs declared ſole regent, without being clogged by any ſuch council. The bill was read a firſt time in the houſe of lords the day it was brought in, and ordered to be read a ſecond time, and the lords to be ſummoned to attend; and upon the 13th their lordſhips paſſed it, and ſent it down to the houſe of commons.

and of commons. As to the debates, which were many and learned upon this occaſion, they all turned upon the ſuppoſition of an event which has not happened; his royal highneſs having lived to be of age; and therefore the reader is not to look upon them as material to hiſtory, whoſe province it is to record events. It is ſufficient to ſay, that not only they that were looked upon in general to be tories, but ſome who went under the denomination of old whigs, were againſt clogging, as they called it, the regent with any council. But his majeſty's recommendation had ſuch weight, that the bill, with ſome inconſiderable amendments, paſſed the houſe of commons, and was ſent back to the peers. The reader is to underſtand, that, at this time, his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland was at the head of the army, and the debate, upon which this queſtion turned, may be eaſily conceived by the following liſt of the council of regency, which was enacted by the bill, viz. his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland; the archbiſhop of Canterbury; the lord chancellor; the lord high treaſurer of Great Britain, or firſt lord commiſſioner of the treaſury; the preſident of the council; the lord privy-ſeal; the lord high admiral of Great Britain, or firſt commiſſioner of the admiralty; the two principal ſecretaries of ſtate, and the lord chief juſtice of the King's Bench, (all for the time being, except his royal highneſs the duke). But great fault was found by ſome for omitting the ſpeaker of the houſe of commons out of the council. All differences of that kind were, however, ſoon compoſed, by the growing attachment which her royal highneſs every day diſcovered towards his majeſty's meaſures and pleaſure; and all attempts for renewing an oppoſition, were diſcouraged and cruſhed.

The party in the houſe of commons, who had been for the naturalization bill, endeavoured again to introduce it this ſeſſion,

ſeſſion, and was again oppoſed by the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons of the city of London, in a petition like as the former on the ſame occaſion. On the other hand, ſeveral merchants, traders, and others in the ſame city, as well as in Briſtol and other places, petitioned that it ſhould paſs into a law. But it was alledged, by other petitioners againſt the bill, that the petitioners, for it, were but inconſiderable, both in number and property, and almoſt all of them foreigners, or the deſcendents of foreigners. Notwithſtanding this, the bill, though oppoſed in every ſtep, went through a third reading by a great majority: but petitions pour'd in thick from all parts of the kingdom againſt it. This general oppoſition without doors, was ſupported by ſome plauſible arguments. It was ſaid, that by ſuch an influx of foreigners as the bill might occaſion, the conſtitution of the church, if not of the ſtate, would be endangered; and that it would be ſo far from improving, that it would injure, the commerce of Great Britain, becauſe numbers of foreigners would come over only to learn trades and manufactures, and carry them back to their own country, where they would ſettle. Though the anſwer to this argument appeared ſatisfactory to a great majority of the houſe, yet the prince of Wales's death intervening, together with the regency bill, the miniſtry did not think the juncture proper for carrying any act that had the appearance of unpopularity, and therefore they, very wiſely, as was thought, dropt it for that ſeſſion.

Geo. II. 1751.

Naturalization bill thrown out.

The preſbyterian clergy of the church of Scotland, had, during the late rebellion, by their activity and their loyalty, acquired vaſt credit at the court of Great Britain, which encouraged them at this time to apply to parliament for a better proviſion than what they were then intitled to. They alledged, that many of their ſtipends were ſo ſmall, that they could not be at the expence of ſuing for the augmentations which the law intitles them to; and that thoſe who were obliged to do it, or even to ſue for punctual payment, commonly forfeited the favour and affection of their pariſhioners. They likewiſe complained of the unequal diſtribution and extent of the pariſhes in Scotland, and thought they might be much better divided and proportioned. Commiſſioners had been choſen by the general aſſembly, and ſent up to London, to preſent their petition to parliament, which they accordingly did; and the prayer of it for relief was referred, at laſt, to the conſideration of a committee.

Application of the Scotch clergy.

Geo. II. 1751. When the miniſter was firſt applied to for relief upon this head, he received the propoſal with complacency; but it ſoon wore a very different aſpect; for it appeared, that the application was ſtrongly oppoſed, almoſt unanimouſly, by the body of the landholders of Scotland. Accordingly, on the 22d of April, a petition was preſented from James earl of Morton, James earl of Lauderdale, John earl of Hopetoun, Charles Hope Wier, Robert Dundaſs, and Archibald Murray, eſqrs; on behalf of themſelves and great numbers of other noblemen, gentlemen, freeholders, and heritors in Scotland. This petition treated that of the clergy very ſeverely; it ſet forth, "That though this application to parliament was voted by a majority of the general aſſembly, yet the petitioners had good grounds to believe that the ſame was come in contrary to the opinion and inclination of many of the wiſeſt and moſt prudent of the clergy themſelves, from a ſenſe of the many fatal conſequences they foreſaw it would be attended with; and that great numbers of noblemen, &c. in Scotland, looking upon this attempt of the clergy to be, in ſeveral parts of it, an open attack and violation of their properties, and in others, to be altogether unreaſonable and unneceſſary, the heritors (landholders) of the greateſt part of the counties of Scotland came to a reſolution to oppoſe the ſaid ſcheme, and entruſted the conduct of ſuch oppoſition with the petitioners; and further alledging, that by the laws of Scotland, a very ſufficient and ample proviſion was made for the maintenance of miniſters, and the augmentation of ſuch of their ſtipends as had not been legally modified and ſettled, purſuant to the laws in being, and for the due payment of ſtipends, and the uniting or dividing of pariſhes; and that the petitioners were convinced, that the making any innovations or alterations in the laws relating to any of thoſe particulars, were abſolutely unneceſſary, and would greatly alarm the minds, and greatly diſturb the peace of the inhabitants of that part of the united kingdom."

Notwithſtanding this ſtrenuous oppoſition from the laity of Scotland, the clergy found ſuch patronage and countenance at the court of London, that the petition went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be printed. Many arguments, and ſome of them of weight, were urged in favour of the petition, and for augmenting the proviſion for the Scotch clergy. It was particularly ſaid, that the ſame having been ſettled above a century ago, the dearneſs of all the neceſſaries and conveniencies of life ſince that time, had rendered it almoſt impoſſible for them to ſupport themſelves and

and their families with any degree of decency as before. But this argument loſt its weight, when the fact came to be examined before the committee, where it was proved, that the Scotch clergy in general were more decently provided for than the Engliſh, conſidering the difference, in the dearneſs of living, between the two kingdoms. Upon the whole, the miniſtry was at great pains to perſwade the commiſſioners to withdraw their petition to a more proper opportunity; but they carried it ſo far, that on June 3, a motion was made for its being taken into the conſideration of a committee of the whole houſe. This motion, however, was carried in the negative, and the bill being put off for two months, was, in effect, dropt for that ſeſſion. Geo. II. 1751. is ineffectual.

In the beginning of this year, a moſt daring inſult was offered to a perſonage of royal blood, and the higheſt rank, as if his power in the army had been incompatible with the ſafety of his elder brother, who was then alive, and his family. This virulent libel was couched in a printed paper, intitled "Conſtitutional Queries, earneſtly recommended to the ſerious conſideration of every true Briton;" and they were circulated with uncommon induſtry through the members of both houſes of parliament, the dwellings of the conſpicuous inhabitants of London and Weſtminſter, and through the coffee houſes of both cities. As the paper was ſuppoſed to be wrote by a member of parliament of ſome note, it was complained of by the duke of Marlborough in the houſe of peers, who required the concurrence of the houſe of commons in expreſſing their utmoſt deteſtation of the libel, and ordering it to be burnt by the hands of the common hangman; which it accordingly was on the 25th of January. The author never was diſcovered, though he was ordered to be proſecuted, and a reward offered for diſcovering him. A libel burnt.

As no houſhold had been yet formed, and no independent ſettlement made upon the prince of Wales, ſome doubts, during this ſeſſion of parliament, aroſe, whether the ſervants of his royal highneſs were not properly his majeſty's ſervants, and whether, by accepting places under him, their ſeats in parliament were not vacated? When this doubt was communicated to the houſe by ſir William Yonge, at the deſire of the parties concerned, Mr. Fazakerly was of opinion, that the cognizance of the matter belonged to the judges. But it ſeems as if the houſe had been of opinion, that the nature of the places under the prince of Wales, did not fall under the denomination deſcribed by the act. For they came to no reſolution, and no new writs were iſſued. Doubts about vacancies in parliament.

Geo. II. 1751. Several other excellent acts beſides thoſe mentioned, were paſſed this ſeſſion. Inſtead of the duties formerly paid for granting licences to diſtillers, 20s. a year was laid upon all licences to ſell ſpirituous liquors by retail; and other very proper regulations of that kind were made, for the preſervation of the morals of the common people. Another act paſſed for the more effectual ſecuring the duties on tobacco. This act was occaſioned by the exceſſive ſmuggling of tobacco, eſpecially from the northern parts, and which was complained of by the merchants of the city of London[a], as laying a heavy exciſe upon tobacco. This act, however, met with great oppoſition in paſſing through the houſe of commons, as the merchants did not foreſee, when they brought in their complaints, that the act would be modelled in the manner it was. Another act paſſed this ſeſſion, for altering the computation of the yoar by aboliſhing entirely the old ſtile. This act was modelled with great ſkill and learning by the earl of Macclesfield, and has been productive of many excellent conſequences. The mention of the other acts of this ſeſſion, does not fall within the deſign of this hiſtory.

rd of the ſion.

On the 25th of June, his majeſty put an end to the ſeſſion in a ſpeech, in which he highly extolled the loyalty and wiſdom of his parliament in their late proceedings, and they were prorogued to the 13th of Auguſt.

Towards the cloſe of the laſt year, and the beginning of this, the public was in ſome ferment on account of the meetings of the South-ſea and Eaſt-India companies, to deliberate about the new propoſals for reducing the intereſt of the national debt, which at firſt they ſeemed averſe to, but at laſt agreed with. About the ſame time many public ſpirited ſchemes were put on foot, particularly one for rendering the foundling hoſpital a kind of a nurſery for the ſociety of the

[a] By this act, every parcel of tobacco, or tobacco ſtalks, weighing above 24 pounds, and every parcel of ſnuff weighing above 10 pounds, that ſhall be carried by land from the port or place of importation, without a certificate for the ſame, is liable to be ſeized, with whatever package it is in, and to the cart or waggon, &c. in which it is carried, and the carrier is to be committed to goal for a month. And every parcel of tobacco, or tobacco ſtalks, weighing above 24 pounds, and every parcel of ſnuff weighing above 10 pounds, that ſhall be carried from one place to another in Great Britain, without having the words tobacco, tobacco ſtalks, or ſnuff, wrote in letters at leaſt three inches long upon the outſide of it, is liable to be ſeized.

Britiſh

Britiſh fiſhery. In April, prince George, eldeſt ſon to the late prince of Wales, was created prince of Wales and earl of Cheſter; and after that was choſen governor of the free Britiſh fiſhery, which honour he received in the moſt affable manner. Ge. II. 1751.

Prince of Wales choſen governor of the fiſhery ſociety.

The profligacy of the common people, ſtill continued to a moſt amazing degree, and numbers were executed for the moſt ſhocking crimes[a]. On the other hand, the ſpirit of charity and beneficence never was known to be greater than it was at this time. Many new hoſpitals, particularly one for lunaticks, called St. Luke's, were erected, and liberally endowed; and people of the higheſt diſtinction devoted great part of their time, as well as money, in regulating and promoting them.

Death and character of the prince of Orange.

This year was fatal to two of the royal family beſides the prince of Wales; the firſt was the prince of Orange, who died on the 11th of October, of a very ſhort illneſs, in the 41ſt year of his age. This excellent prince, during the time of his government as ſtadtholder, had been the author and promoter of many beneficial ſchemes in the trade and conſtitution of the Dutch; and he had formed a noble plan, which was afterwards publiſhed, for reſtoring their commerce to all its former luſtre. Some time before his death, he had made a journey to Aix-la-Chapelle, and had left this ſcheme with the States General. Upon his return, a deputation was ordered to wait upon him, and return him thanks for the ſame. But the very day before they were to have made their compliments, he was ſeized with a quinſey, which carried him off, ſo that he did not ſee the deputies. Though he had but

[a] One miſs Blandy was executed for poiſoning her father, an eminent attorney at Henley upon Thames. One Jeffries, a young woman, with her lover, one Swan, were executed for murdering her uncle, a wealthy tradeſman who had retired from buſineſs to Walthamſtow, with whom ſhe lived. A mob of many hundreds of people aroſe at Tring in Hertfordſhire, and ſeizing an old woman and her huſband, under the notion of their being witches, treated them with ſuch inhumanity, by ducking and beating them, that the woman died on the ſpot, and the man eſcaped with great difficulty. For this murder, one Colley was executed. Two fellows, Welſh and Jones, were diſcovered to be the authors of a rape and a murder, for which one Coleman, a brewer's clerk, was innocently executed. Thoſe wretches were preſent at Coleman's execution, heard the declaration of his innocence, and drew the cart from under him. Both of them were hanged, confeſſing the fact.

Geo. II. very few opportunities of displaying the martial character of
1751. his family, yet in the few he had, he discovered wonderful spirit and courage. His private and political characters were equally amiable. Before he came into public life, he had applied himself with great assiduity to reading and study, in which he had made a progress, that would have been thought considerable even in a profest scholar. His address and manner of conversation was extreamly pleasing, and he discovered equal justness and vivacity in his reflections. In the latter years of his life, he turned his thoughts to public business of all kinds, in which his learning gave him great assistance and advantages. His apprehension was remarkably quick, and he had the art to suit himself in conversation to the several characters and talents of those he conversed with. But the most distinguishing part of his character, was his being a real patriot; for the whole of his time and application was devoted to the service of his country, which he thought stood in need of peace, to enable her to recover her former lustre. He left issue behind him, the princess Caroline, born in 1743, and the count de Buren, born in 1748. By the constitution of the United Provinces, the princess dowager had the administration of the government as governantee, during the minority of her son; and all the powers her husband enjoyed, devolved upon her during that time.

and the queen of Denmark.

The other death mentioned was that of Louisa, queen of Denmark, youngest daughter to his Britannic majesty, which happened on the 19th of December this year, in the 27th year of her age. This amiable princess was far advanced in her pregnancy, and too hastily stooping, she had contracted a rupture, for which the physicians and surgeons made her undergo the painful operation of an incision in her side. She fulfilled all the duties of her station with exemplary piety and virtue, and met her death with a becoming resignation, by taking a most tender leave of her husband and her children, of whom, she left behind her, prince Christian, born January 29, 1749; the princess Sophia, born July 3, 1746; the princess Wilhelmina, born July 10, 1747, and the princess Louisa, born January 1750.

State of affairs upon the continent.

The several powers of Europe, as well as England, at this time were endeavouring to cultivate the blessings of peace. The king of Prussia not only vigorously supported his new company of Embden, and the schemes he had adopted for improving the commerce of his country, but set a noble example of equity in reforming the laws of his dominions, and reducing the administration of justice to plain, simple principles,

ciples, and an expeditious practice: ſo that Cocceji, his chan- Geo. II.
cellor, decided in one year, in the city of Berlin, no fewer 1751.
than 560 law ſuits, without delay or expence to the clients.

The heart-burnings, however, between his Pruſſian majeſty In Pruſſia and the empreſs of Ruſſia, were rather encreaſed than abated. and Ruſſia.
She ordered her miniſter to leave the court of Berlin abruptly, and publiſhed ſome reaſons for it, which all Europe looked upon as vague and trifling. The king of Pruſſia ſent the like orders to his miniſter at the court of Peterſburgh. The new miniſter of the marine in France, was ſo intent upon France.
carrying his predeceſſor's and his own vaſt projects into execution, that to ſupply the expence, his maſter ordered the clergy to deliver in an eſtimate of all their eſtates and revenues, that they might be taxed, which occaſioned, for ſome time, a breach between the civil and eccleſiaſtical power of that kingdom, which was not compromiſed till the clergy conſented to pay, by way of free gift, a ſum almoſt equal to that which had been demanded by their king. This enabled the miniſter to carry on his prodigious ſchemes, eſpecially in America. Some of their beſt troops, and upwards of 600 of their reduced officers, together with great quantities of arms, ammunition, and proviſions of all kinds, were ſent thither. Their garriſons were reinforced, their fortifications were compleated. Great ſums and preſents, and large quantities of ſpirituous liquors, were ſent to debauch the Indians from their friendſhip and ſubjection to the Engliſh, in which they ſucceeded but too well; and all this while, the Engliſh ambaſſador was receiving the moſt extraordinary careſſes at the court of France.

The attention of the French to their affairs in America, did not divert that to the affairs of Europe. The great foreign meaſure which his Britannic majeſty at this time had in view, was to puſh the election of the archduke Joſeph to be king of the Romans. It was thought to be with this deſign, as it tended to eſtabliſh the tranquillity of the empire, that his majeſty concluded two ſubſidy treaties, one with the elector of Bavaria, and another with the elector of Saxony. In the beginning of the year, the emperor and the empreſs queen Germany.
addreſſed two declarations to the diet of the empire, informing them, that they had lent an ear to his Britannic majeſty's overture for the election of their ſon, and that they had expreſſed themſelves gratefully to him for it; but that they were reſolved to proceed in it no other ways, than was agreeable to the golden bull, and to the fundamental laws of the empire. Thoſe declarations were but coldly received by the

Geo. II. 1751. diet; and the king of Pruſſia, from ſhowing a backwardneſs, became at laſt a profeſſed enemy to the propoſal. He pretended, that the golden bull, without making any proviſions about electing a king of the Romans, or the manner of it, eſtabliſhes only perpetual vicars for governing the empire upon the demiſe of an emperor, till another emperor can be elected. That the peace of Weſtphalia implied [a], that all the eſtates of the empire had a right to concur in the deciſion of the preliminary queſtion, "whether it is proper to proceed to the election of a king of the Romans," and to judge of the caſe of neceſſity. That the Imperial capitulations on that head, laid down no caſe of neceſſity which exiſted at that time; and that the chuſing a minor under a guardianſhip, would deprive the vicars, in caſe of the demiſe of the emperor during the minor's nonage, of their right of government. Thoſe reaſons of his Pruſſian majeſty, which he addreſſed to the elector of Mentz, had great weight with other princes of the empire; and the elector of Cologn declared himſelf to be of his Pruſſian majeſty's opinion. The court of France, all this time, profeſſed an intire neutrality in the matter, and declared ſhe would take no concern in it but as guarantee of the treaty of Weſtphalia; which was declaring, in other terms, that ſhe was reſolved to ſtand by the king of Pruſſia.

Conduct of France.

Differences in the empire.

As the empreſs queen and her huſband had the affair greatly at heart, they omitted nothing that could ſecure a majority in the empire, ſhould the preliminary queſtion come to be laid before them, which indeed the Imperial inſtitutions ſeemed to preſcribe. Her Imperial majeſty, having by the peace of Dreſden, engaged to procure to the king of Pruſſia the guaranty of the empire for Sileſia, new difficulties were ſtarted on that head, which gave his Pruſſian majeſty a pretext for diſputing the payment of the Sileſia loan, for which he was engaged to the ſubjects of Great Britain. He even went ſo far, as to reproach the court of Vienna with conſulting only the youngeſt elector of the empire (meaning his Britannic majeſty) in ſo important an affair as electing a king of the Romans; and he complained of the treaties of ſubſidy lately concluded with Bavaria and Saxony, as the illicit means of obtaining their votes for the archduke Joſeph.

Upon this footing ſtood this important affair, when on the 6th of April Frederick king of Sweden, and landgrave of

[a] De electione Romanorum regum ex communi ſtatuum conſenſu agatur et ſtatuatur.

Heſſe

Heſſe Caſſel, died. He had been married to the younger ſiſter of Charles the XIIth, who, upon his death, was elected queen of Sweden, and upon her reſignation, he was elected king in 1721. This prince, as a ſoldier, ſhowed great courage and capacity, but grew a little too credulous and remiſs towards the latter end of his days. His government, however, was mild and beneficent, and he omitted no means of promoting the intereſt and happineſs of Sweden, which he recommended to the prince his ſucceſſor, in the moſt earneſt terms, with his lateſt breath. As landgrave of Heſſe, he was ſucceeded by his brother, prince William; and as king of Sweden, by Adolphus Frederic duke of Holſtein Eutin, and biſhop of Lubec. The czarina, and the other powers of the north, had been, for ſome time, apprehenſive, that this prince, ſupported by the French party in Sweden, and by the power of his brother-in-law, the king of Pruſſia, would have attempted to alter the government of that country, from being the moſt limited monarchy, into a deſpotic one. It is, however, certain, that neither he, nor his brother-in-law, had any ſuch intention; for upon the death of the old king, the ſucceſſor gave the moſt ſolemn aſſurances that could be required, both in words and writing, that he would maintain the preſent conſtitution of the kingdom. His quiet acceſſion to the crown, however, was in a great meaſure owing to his Britannic majeſty's zeal for preſerving the peace of the north; for it was by his mediation and influence, that the empreſs of Ruſſia had recalled her troops out of Finland. As to the king of Pruſſia, one of the terms he propoſed to be ſettled before any ſtep was taken for electing a king of the Romans, was, that the empreſs queen, and her allie, ſhould guaranty the peace of the north; and that he and his allies ſhould become guarantees, that the government of Sweden never ſhould be turned into deſpotiſm. The other condition was, that her Imperial majeſty ſhould ſatisfy the elector Palatine's demand, or abide by the manner in which they ſhould be ſettled by their Pruſſian and moſt Chriſtian majeſties. The empreſs queen could not be brought to agree to either of thoſe propoſitions; but, by the intervention of his Britannic majeſty, the diet of the empire guarantied the treaty of Dreſden and the poſſeſſion of Sileſia to his Pruſſian majeſty.

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Death and character of the king of Sweden.

During this ſituation of affairs in Germany and in the North, the court of Spain was equally intent as that of France upon improving her marine and her commerce. By the help of Engliſh artificers, for whoſe employment too little care had

Conduct of Spain.

Geo. II. 1751. had been taken at the time the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle was concluded, they built ſeveral large men of war upon Engliſh models; and their woollen and other manufactures were daily improving by means of Engliſh ſubjects, to whom vaſt encouragement was given for ſettling in Spain. This making a great noiſe in England, Mr. Keene received orders to make repreſentations on that head, and to demand not only that no more Engliſhmen ſhould be admitted to ſettle in Spain, but that thoſe already ſettled ſhould be ſent home to their own country; but his repreſentation was very little regarded.

Mr. Keen's memorial.

The parliament ſits. King's ſpeech.

On the 14th of November, the parliament ſat, and his majeſty, in his ſpeech upon this occaſion, took notice "of the continuance of the public tranquillity, and the ſolid advantages his good ſubjects reaped from it in their trade and manufactures; ſome branches whereof, he told them, had alſo received conſiderable benefit from the wiſe proviſions made by this parliament." He then mentioned the treaty lately entered into with the elector of Bavaria, and what he told them laſt ſeſſion, of his taking ſuch farther meaſures, as might ſecure the tranquillity of the empire. He next acquainted them, that he had ſince, for the ſame purpoſes, in conjunction with the States General, concluded a treaty with the king of Poland, elector of Saxony. He then told them, that the unfortunate death of the prince of Orange, had made no alteration in the ſtate of affairs in Holland; and acquainted them, that he had received the ſtrongeſt aſſurances from the States General, of their firm reſolution to maintain that ſtrict union and friendſhip which ſo happily ſubſiſted between his majeſty and thoſe antient and natural allies of his crown. He then told the commons, "he had no other ſupplies to aſk of them, but ſuch as were neceſſary for the ſervices of the enſuing year, and for making good ſuch neceſſary engagements, as they were made acquainted with; and that he was confident their ſucceſs in reducing the intereſt of the national debt, would give them the greateſt ſatisfaction." He concluded with recommending to both houſes, in the moſt earneſt manner, "to conſider ſeriouſly of ſome effectual proviſions to ſuppreſs thoſe audacious crimes of robbery and violence which were then become ſo frequent, eſpecially about this great capital, and which had proceeded, in a great meaſure, from that profligate ſpirit of irreligion, idleneſs, gaming, and extravagancy, which had of late extended itſelf in an uncommon degree, to the diſhonour of the nation, and to the great offence and prejudice of the ſober and induſtrious part of the people."

As

As ſpeeches from the throne, at the opening of a ſeſſion, generally contain the great outlines of the buſineſs of the ſeſſion, and there being nothing exceptionable in the above ſpeech, the addreſſes from both houſes were full of loyalty and affection, and the motion met with little or no oppoſition. Amongſt the firſt matters that came before them, was the caſe of Mr. Murray, who, as the reader has been informed, had delivered himſelf from Newgate by the riſing of the laſt ſeſſion. The circumſtance of the ſheriffs of London, attending triumphantly from Newgate to his own houſe, gave great offence to many of the violent members; and tho' no formal motion was made, yet ſome talk paſſed in the houſe about bringing them to the bar for it, becauſe their proceedings reflected upon the juſtice of parliament. A violent vote certainly would have paſſed on this occaſion, had it not been for the moderation of Mr. Pelham; but he could not prevent their voting, that Mr. Murray ſhould be again committed cloſe priſoner to Newgate, upon his former demerits. Though the motion for this was oppoſed by ſeveral members, who doubted of the power of the houſe to enforce the ſentence of a former ſeſſion in matters of priviledge, yet the ſame was not only carried, but a motion was likewiſe again made, and carried, for Mr. Murray's receiving the ſentence of his commitment to Newgate upon his knees at the bar of the houſe. That gentleman, however, had very prudently provided againſt the impending ſtorm, by retiring out of the kingdom: and the ſerjeant at arms reporting that he could not be found, after the moſt diligent ſearch, the houſe voted to addreſs his majeſty, that he would be pleaſed to iſſue his royal proclamation for apprehending the ſaid Mr. Murray, with a promiſe of a reward for the ſame.

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Addreſſes in anſwer to it.

Mr. Murray again ordered into cuſtody.

Proclamation againſt him.

A pamphlet had been publiſhed, during the receſs of parliament, intitled, "The caſe of the honourable Alexander Murray, eſq; in an appeal to the people of Great Britain, more particularly the inhabitants of the city and liberty of Weſtminſter." This pamphlet undoubtedly contained ſeveral atrocious reflections upon the returning officer, and upon the proceedings of the houſe of commons againſt Mr. Murray; but, ſtrictly ſpeaking, the matter of it was cognizable by the houſe of commons only, and could not properly be brought under the denomination of a libel. It was, however, voted by the houſe of commons to be a libel upon them, of the moſt infamous kind; and they addreſſed his majeſty to give directions to the attorney general, to proſecute the authors, printers, and publiſhers of it. This proſecution

His caſe printed.

Voted a libel, and the authors, &c. to be proſecuted.

Geo. II. 1751. ſecution was accordingly carried on, and the perſon who was bot printer and publiſher, was brought to his trial, but acquitted

Money granted.

The whole ſum granted for the current ſervice of the year, was 2,090,309l. For paying off debts, 1,300,000l. For deficiencies of old funds, 301,012l. For the deficiencies of laſt year's grants, 54,751l. For the ſervices incurred, and not provided for, 49,219l. and for purchaſing the African charter, 112,142l. The whole, including the ſeveral fractions, amounted to 3,907,435l. 7s. 7d. Of this money, 3,000l. was granted for making and keeping in repair a road proper for the paſſage of troops and carriages between Carliſle and Newcaſtle. It is remarkable, that this road, the want of which proved ſo detrimental to the public during the time of the late rebellion, is the ſame that, fortified by a wall, had been carried on and compleated by the Romans, while they were in Britain. So that the artificers had little more to do, than to repair the old Roman road.

The tranſactions of this ſeſſion of parliament, which was, perhaps, the moſt unanimous ever known, were not very important; but the miniſter ſtill continued his plan of encouraging and contributing to the paſſing of popular bills.

Debate on the army.

Some debate happened upon the number of troops to be kept on foot that year. The few in the oppoſition contended they ſhould be only 15,000; but it was carried, that there ſhould be 18,857, by a majority of 108 againſt 43. An oppoſition was likewiſe made againſt granting 32,000l. in purſuance of the ſubſidy treaty with the king of Poland, elector of Saxony; but this likewiſe was carried in the affirmative, by a majority of 236 againſt 54; by which the reader may perceive to what a low paſs oppoſition was now reduced. It is obſervable, that Mr. Horace Walpole the elder, who was now heard in the houſe with great attention, ſpoke againſt the treaty and its utility; but, as his majeſty had entered into the engagement, he was for fulfilling it. An act paſſed for importing gum ſenega, which grows in Africa, and was found neceſſary in many branches of trade, in Britiſh bottoms, to any European ports. This act is here mentioned, chiefly on account of the valuable acquiſition that Great Britain hath ſince made from the French of all that part of Africa where this commodity grows. By the ſum granted for purchaſing the charter of the royal African company, the reader will perceive that that affair was finally determined this ſeſſion. The management of that trade was veſted in a committee of London, Briſtol, and Liverpool merchants, who acted under certain regulations preſcribed by act of parliament,

African trade ſettled.

ment, which were ſo framed, as to anſwer all the advan- Geo. II.
tages of an open, as well as a joint ſtock company trade. 1751.

The profligacy of the common people of England, at this time, called aloud for ſome legal reſtraint. It falls within the bounds of hiſtory to ſay, that every city, every town, nay, almoſt every village, had aſſemblies of muſic, dancing, and gaming. This occaſioned a prodigious diſſipation of the time, money, and morals of the lower people, and many ſerious perſons of great rank and conſideration, thought it was high time for the legiſlature to prevent this growing evil. Robberies had of late been ſo frequent, that the enormity of the crime was almoſt effaced in the minds of the people; and nothing was more common than to adverti ſe in the newspapers, an impunity to any perſon who could bring, to a party that was robbed, the effects that had been taken from them, and that too with a reward according to the value. Thoſe diſorders were very juſtly aſcribed, in a great meaſure, to the extravagance of the common people, and therefore a bill was brought in for the better preventing theſts and robberies, and for regulating places of public entertainment, and puniſhing people keeping diſorderly houſes. The operation of this bill, when it paſſed the houſe of commons, was confined to London and Weſtminſter, and twenty miles round; and all perſons within that circuit, were required to take out licences from the juſtices of the peace of the county, aſſembled at their quarter ſeſſions, before they could open any room or place for public dancing, muſic, or any other entertainment of the like kind. Several other regulations regarding idle, diſorderly, or ſuſpected perſons and houſes, were inſerted in the ſame act, and pecuniary, as well as corporal, penalties were affixed to the tranſgreſſors. When this bill went to the houſe of lords, they thought ſo well of it, that they extended the operation of it all over England. But as a tax was laid by it upon the ſubject, when they returned the bill to the houſe of commons, their amendments were unanimouſly diſagreed to, becauſe they would not ſuffer the lords to alter any bill that was to affect the purſe of the ſubject. They therefore deſired a conference of the lords, and appointed a committee to draw up reaſons againſt the amendments. The lords, on the other hand, having never formally given up their right to amend money bills, could not receive the true reaſon of the diſſent of the commons without giving up that right, or coming to an open breach with them. The commons, therefore, to avoid ſo diſagreeable an emergency, drew up reaſons againſt the amendments, which

Licenſing act for muſic meetings, &c.

Geo. II. 1751. which had no regard or connection with the true reaſon of their diſagreeing with them; and the lords, rather than ſo good a bill ſhould be loſt, agreed not to inſiſt upon their amendments; and thus the bill paſſed, and received the royal aſſent.

The forfeited eſtates veſted in the crown for the benefit of the Highlands of Scotland.

The diſpoſitions of the people of Scotland, ever ſince the laſt rebellion, appeared to be dutiful, and inclined to induſtry of every kind. Their trade, their manufactures and agriculture, had, in thoſe few years, moſt ſurprizingly increaſed. Many gentlemen of fortune in England had viſited the country, and ſaw how capable it was of further improvements with proper encouragements. But the genius of the people was to be conſulted, and their prejudices removed. They were to be enured to habits of induſtry, and a new ſet of manners was to be introduced amongſt the more civilized part of the people, before they could become peaceful, uſeful, and dutiful ſubjects. The duke of Argyle, and other perſons of great conſideration in that country, who were well acquainted with the nature of the commonality, repreſented all this to the Engliſh miniſtry; and it was agreed to apply the rents and profits of the forfeited eſtates, to the purpoſes abovementioned. Accordingly, the lord advocate of Scotland, by order of the houſe of commons, brought in a bill for annexing certain forfeited eſtates in Scotland to the crown unalienably, and for making ſatisfaction to the lawful creditors thereupon, and to eſtabliſh a method of leaſing the ſame, and applying the rents and profits thereof for the better civilizing and improving the Highlands of Scotland, and preventing future diſorders there. The eſtates propoſed to be applied to the purpoſes of the bill, were thoſe of the duke of Perth, the earl of Cromarty, the lord Lovat, M'Donald of Barriſdale, Cameron of Lochiel, Stewart of Ardſhiel, M'Donald of Kenloch Moydart, M'Pherſon of Chinic, Buchannan of Arupnior, M'Donald of Lochgary, Cameron of Calloſt, Farquharſon of Monaltry, M'Donald of Keppock, and Robertſon of Strowan. The reader, perhaps, will think it incredible, that a bill of this tendency, ſhould meet with an oppoſition from thoſe who called themſelves patriots. When the bill came to be opened, and underſtood, it appeared, that the rents of the eſtates already mentioned, were to be annexed unalienably to the crown; in order that the yearly income of the ſame might be applied, as his majeſty and their ſucceſſors, by their ſign manual, ſhall direct, to the purpoſes of civilizing the inhabitants of the ſaid eſtates, and other parts of the Highlands and iſles of Scotland, and the promoting

moting among them the proteſtant religion, good govern- Geo. II.
ment, induſtry and manufactures; for which purpoſe his ma- 1751.
jeſty was empowered to appoint commiſſioners for managing
the ſaid eſtates, who were to have no ſalaries, but to appoint ſtewards under them, with an allowance not exceeding 5l. per cent of the rental, and alſo clerks and other officers with reaſonable ſalaries; and to grant leaſes for any term, not exceeding 21 years, upon a reſerved rent of not leſs than three fourths of the real annual value, and not above 20l. a year to any one perſon; all of which leſſees were to take the oaths to the government, to reſide upon and cultivate the premiſes, and not to aſſign or let the ſame to any other perſon, nor to pay any gratuity whatſoever to any other perſon for holding the ſame.

Had thoſe eſtates been diſpoſed of by public ſale, as was directed by a former act of parliament, it was more than probable that they would have been purchaſed for the late owners, and thus the ſpirit of diſaffection might ſtill have remained in thoſe parts. But in order to obviate this danger, and that the juſt claimants upon ſuch eſtates might be ſatisfied, the bill directed that they ſhould be paid, as far as the true value of the eſtate could go, and a valuation of the ſame was to be made by the court of ſeſſion in Scotland, at the joint ſuit of the crown and the creditors; and upon their certificate of the value, the claimants were, to the amount of that value, to be paid out of the next aids to be granted by parliament, according to the order of preference which the ſame lords of ſeſſion were to ſettle. But notwithſtanding the patriot ſpirit of this bill, it was ſome time before it could make its way through the oppoſition it met with in the houſe of lords, as well as commons. The diviſion in the latter was 134 for its paſſing, and 29 againſt it; and in the houſe of lords, it paſſed by a majority of 80 againſt 12.

All the funds reduced into one.

There ſubſiſted at this time a great number of different funds for annuities, eſtabliſhed at different times, and by different acts, which made it neceſſary to keep many different accounts that were expenſive as well as troubleſome. The different ſtocks of annuities were no fewer than eight, at 3 per cent. and amounted in the whole to 9,137,821l. 5s. 1½d. principal money; there were ſix other different ſtocks of annuities, amounting to 17,701,323l. 18s. 9d. principal money, at 3l. 10s. per cent. from January 1756, to January 5, 1758, when they were to be reduced to 3 per cent. But a bill was now projected by Mr. Pelham, and carried through both houſes, without any oppoſition, for converting

Geo. II. 1751. the ſeveral annuities therein mentioned, into ſeveral joint ſtocks of annuities, transferable at the bank of England, to be charged on the ſinking fund, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

Caſe of the poors rate all over England,

Other matters came before the parliament this ſeſſion, which had not the good fortune to paſs into laws, though ſome of them afterwards did. Never was there a time when ſo much money was raiſed for the poor as was raiſed then; and yet they never were worſe provided for. This came to be a very ſerious matter of enquiry, and the houſe had ordered an account of the total ſums of money, annually aſſeſſed in England and Wales, towards the relief of the poor, from Eaſter 1747, to Eaſter 1750, to be returned to their clerk, together with the number of work-houſes for the poor. This order of the houſe being a little too indefinite, was very much diſregarded, and the houſe required the juſtices of the peace of the ſeveral counties, to ſee it now put into execution. But, by the returns that were made, the ſums collected were abuſed, and ſeveral gentlemen of great abilities propoſed plans of a bill for remedying that evil: but difficulties and debates occurring, none of them were carried into execution. The like abuſes had prevailed in the money collected at turnpikes. A committee was therefore appointed to enquire into the management of all ſuch monies as had been collected for ten years paſt. This committee, with great application, diſcovered likewiſe vaſt abuſes. But as what was paſt could not be remedied, the houſe contented itſelf with making the two reſolutions of the committee, which the reader will find in the notes *, ſtanding orders of the houſe.

...uſe of the turnpikes.

The journals printed.

It muſt not be forgot here, that the members of the houſe of commons had ordered their journals to be printed. This was a uſeful and a neceſſary work, as the charge of tranſcribing them could be defrayed, but, by very few private ſubjects. The care of the publication was committed to Mr. Hardinge,

* I. That in all future bills for acts of parliament for the erecting or continuing any turnpike, a clauſe ſhould be inſerted, to oblige the commiſſioners of ſuch turnpike, to take ſecurity from their treaſurer or receiver, for the faithful execution of the ſaid office.

II. That in all future bills for acts of parliament for the erecting and continuing any turnpike, a clauſe ſhould be inſerted, to prevent any perſon, who ſhall be nominated a commiſſioner, from acting or voting in the buſineſs of the turnpike, unleſs he ſhall be poſſeſſed of an eſtate in land, or a perſonal eſtate to ſuch certain value, as ſhall be ſpecified in ſuch bills.

the late clerk of the houſe, and 5000l. was, from time to time, voted to be paid him by order of the houſe. He was a man of ſome knowledge in hiſtory; and very little beſides correctneſs being required in ſuch a publication, he diſcharged his duty as an editor with tolerable ſucceſs. Geo. II. 1752.

The repeated attempts for naturalization bills having failed, the oppoſition to them without doors ſucceeded this ſeſſion in a very ſalutary expedient for preventing the abuſes of them. For on the 11th of March, a petition came from a great number of merchants of the city of London to the houſe of commons, alledging, "that ſeveral foreigners have, of late years, been induced to come over into England, in order to obtain private acts of parliament for their naturalization, with a view to gain ſome advantages to themſelves in point of trade, and particularly to avoid the payment of aliens duties on the goods and merchandizes which they tranſport from foreign parts into this kingdom; but having obtained ſuch acts, returned back into their own country, where they conſtantly reſide, and conſequently bear no part of the public taxes, nor in any manner contribute towards the ſupport of the ſtate, or at all anſwer the intention of the legiſlature." Such were the chief allegations of this petition, which were ſtrengthened by ſome excellent reaſonings. The prayer of it was, that the abuſe of the favour of parliament might be prevented, "by reſtraining, for the future, the benefit of naturalization to the time during which foreigners ſhall reſide within this realm, in ſuch manner, and under ſuch limitations, as to the houſe ſhould appear fit." This petition was thought ſo reaſonable, that notwithſtanding the innovation which it intended to introduce, the houſe entered into a ſerious examination of ſeveral eminent merchants upon its contents, and the allegations appeared to be true. Upon this, a clauſe in conſequence of the prayer of the petition, was inſerted in a naturalization bill then depending, and being ſent to the lords, was paſſed by them, and received the royal aſſent at the end of the ſeſſion; and the ſame clauſe has been ſince inſerted in all naturalization bills. Clauſe inſerted in the naturalization bills.

The ſubſidies lately engaged for in Germany, gave the only plauſible handle at this time for an oppoſition. The duke of B——, who had then no place under the government, was at the head of that in the houſe of lords, and he had been ſucceeded as one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate by the earl of Holderneſs. On the 28th of January, he made a motion in the houſe of Addreſs moved for in the two houſes,

Geo. II. 1752. peers, to preſent an addreſs to his majeſty, beſeeching him, in the moſt dutiful manner, that, during this time of public tranquillity, his majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed not to enter into any ſubſidiary treaties with foreign princes, which are ſo burthenſome to this nation. This motion was oppoſed by the duke of Newcaſtle, the earl of Granville, who had lately been made preſident of the council, and rejected without any diviſion. The next day the lord Harley, eldeſt ſon to the earl of Oxford, made the ſame motion in the houſe of commons; but there too, after long debate, it was rejected without dividing. This was the only new party motion made this ſeſſion. Little more is to be added to the tranſactions of this ſeſſion, only that the great number of perſons who daily continued to be executed for murder, induced the legiſlature to paſs an act, that all criminals convicted thereof, ſhould be executed the day after they received ſentence, unleſs it ſhould happen to be upon a ſunday, and that their bodies ſhould be given to be anatomized.

rejected.

King's ſpeech at the cloſe of the ſeſſion.

On the 26th of March, his majeſty put an end to the ſeſſion with a ſpeech, in which he thanked both houſes for the great application and diſpatch with which they had gone through the public buſineſs; and for that they had not only ſhewn their juſt ſatisfaction in the meaſures he had purſued in foreign affairs, but had alſo given his majeſty their ſupport in carrying them on with that zeal and chearfulneſs, which he had reaſon to expect from ſo dutiful and affectionate a parliament. Then told them, the many laws now paſſed, would, he hoped, attain the good ends intended by them, and nothing that depended upon him, ſhould be wanting to make them effectual: he particularly thanked the commons for their readily granting the ſupplies, and for their care to ſupport the reduction of the national intereſt; and concluded thus, "Nothing in this world can give me ſo much pleaſure, as to ſee you a flouriſhing and happy people. Exert yourſelves in your ſeveral ſtations to do your parts, and you may depend on my unwearied endeavours to ſecure this great bleſſing to ourſelves, and tranſmit it to poſterity." The parliament was then prorogued to June 4.

Treaty with Tunis and Tripoly.

In the beginning of this year arrived in England from commodore Keppel, a treaty of peace and commerce concluded between himſelf and Mr. White, the Engliſh conſul at Tripoli on the one part, and the governor of that kingdom on the other; and likewiſe another treaty ſigned between the commodore and Charles Gordon, eſq; on the one part, and the Bey of Tunis on the other; both of them tend-

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ing to prevent any depredations for the future upon the commerce of England. As to the domeſtic tranſactions of this year, few of them fall within the compaſs of this hiſtory. All the care, and all the ſeverity of the government, could not put a ſtop to the daily perpetration of the moſt horrid murders and robberies; and in ſome jails, particularly in Newgate, the malefactors under ſentence of death were ſo numerous, that they maſtered their keepers, bid defiance to the civil power, and held out, in their cells, till they were reduced, with ſome difficulty, by a ſtrong party of the guards. Geo. II. 1752.

Death and character of lord Bolingbroke.

It is proper here to mention the death of a man who, when alive, both in power and out of power, made a great noiſe in the world. This was Henry St. John, late lord viſcount Bolingbroke, who died under the injuſtice of having his character never repreſented but in extreams. He came early into life, and was naturally formed with every accompliſhment that could ſtrike and pleaſe either in public or private. Though his learning cannot be ſaid to have been any other than ſuperficial, yet he poſſeſſed ſo much of it, and knew how to turn it to ſo much advantage in converſation, that the moſt knowing could not pronounce him to be ſhallow either in divinity or philoſophy; neither was he ever diſcovered to be ſuch, till the public had an opportunity of coolly judging of his poſthumous works, upon which he was known to value himſelf ſo much in his lifetime. His eaſy and pleaſing manners, received incredible advantages from an univerſal prejudice in favour of his abilities, raiſed by Mr. Pope and other writers, who ſtood at the head of polite literature in Europe. It cannot, however, be denied, that he was, occaſionally, perhaps, the beſt political writer that ever appeared in England. Several circumſtances contributed to this; he had a perſonal hatred to ſir Robert Walpole and his family, which gave ſuch an edge to his pen, and ſuch a glow to his language, that his writings exhibited, to the greateſt advantage, the ſtrongeſt ridicule and the ſublimeſt ſentiment. The next advantage he had, was the deſpicable abilities of the writers he encountered; and, laſtly, by his connections and correſpondence abroad, he had excellent intelligence both of the intereſts and tranſactions of foreign courts. He was pertinacious, but not deep, in the Engliſh hiſtory; and the Diſſertation upon Parties, for which he was ſo much celebrated, is, but at beſt, a plauſible performance; if it was called ſhallow, the character, perhaps, would be more juſt. The ſame may be pronounced of his other writings upon Engliſh hiſtory. Though he was for ſome time at the head of the

Geo. II. 1752.

high church party, yet he was, in his principles, an infidel as to all revealed religion, and the arguments which he has employed in his poſthumous works to ſupport his opinions, diſcover how very ſuperficially he read and ſtudied.

Under the appearance of the moſt perfect reſignation to his fate, and contemning all power, he concealed the moſt malicious reſentments, and the moſt ambitious projects, that could riſe in a human breaſt. His treatment of Mr. Pope, to whom he was under the higheſt obligations, even pecuniary ones, immediately after that poet's death, ſhowed his ingratitude as a man; his abandoning his principles, and entering into the ſervice of the pretender, whom he likewiſe betrayed, ſhewed his profligacy as a miniſter. The reader will ſee a moſt curious detail of his conduct as miniſter to the pretender, in the foregoing part of this work. The truth is, there was in his nature no conſtancy, and conſequently there was in his conduct no conſiſtency, though he had very often long fits of application to buſineſs. His being reſtored to a capacity of inheriting in England, and pardoned as to his life and fortune, was owing to the intrigues of a French lady, who was, or lived with him in the rank of, his wife, and who was, in all reſpects, except the profligate part of his character, a more extraordinary woman than he was a man. His want of ſteadineſs appeared even in his domeſtic oeconomy, by which he often run into great difficulties. In his youth he had been intemperate, which was a proof of the excellency of his conſtitution; for he lived to the 70th year of his age.

Note, p. 516, vol. xviii.

The king names a regency,

Soon after the riſing of the parliament, his majeſty in council declared his intention of going out of the kingdom for a ſhort time; and on the 30th of March, he nominated the following perſons to be lords juſtices during his abſence, viz. the archbiſhop of Canterbury; lord Hardwick, lord chancellor; earl Granville, lord preſident; earl Gower, lord privy ſeal; duke of Marlborough, lord ſteward; duke of Grafton, lord chamberlain; duke of Argyle; duke of Newcaſtle, one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate; duke of Dorſet, lord lieutenant of Ireland; lord Cavendiſh, of Hardwick, commonly called marquis of Harrington, maſter of the horſe; earl of Holderneſs, one of his majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate; earl of Albemarle, groom of the ſtole; lord Anſon, firſt commiſſioner of the admiralty, and Henry Pelham, eſq; firſt commiſſioner of the treaſury. It was the 16th of April before his majeſty, who had been detained at Harwich for

ſome

ſome days by contrary winds, reached Hanover. During his abſence, the diſorders about the turnpikes began to be renewed in Yorkſhire; but by the great vigilance of the government, and the acting commiſſioners of the turnpikes, they were ſoon ſuppreſſed. About the ſame time news came by the Badger ſloop of war, that commodore Buckle, who had been ſent with three Engliſh ſhips of war to attend the motions of the French upon the coaſt of Africa, had forced them to depart from Anamaboe, at which place they intended to make a ſettlement, with three men of war, one of 64, one of 50, and one of 20 guns. Geo. II. 1752. Affairs abroad.

Winterbottom, lord mayor of London, dying in June this year in the time of his mayoralty, was ſucceeded in that high office by alderman Aſop; but the filling his office as alderman of Billinſgate ward, created ſome commotion in the city. Sir Peter Warren, who was at that time a member of parliament for Weſtminſter, had acquired great popularity by the independency of his conduct, and the openneſs of his behaviour. As he was no enemy to popularity, he had been heard to hint, that he ſhould not be diſpleaſed if he was choſen an alderman of London; and the inhabitants of that ward accordingly elected him. The lords juſtices, however, upon conſidering the matter, after they heard of the intentions of the ward, had ordered it to be intimated to ſir Peter Warren, that his accepting the office of alderman, muſt be conſidered as inconſiſtent with his duty as an admiral, and that there was no precedent of a knight of the Bath ſerving in that ſtation. Upon this, ſir Peter very handſomly declined the honour that was done him, and not only paid his fine of 500l. to be excuſed from ſerving, but ſent a preſent of 200 guineas to the inhabitants of the ward for the benefit of their poor. Notwithſtanding this, the inhabitants ſtill inſiſted on his ſerving, till Mr. Beckford, perhaps the richeſt merchant in Europe, ſtood a candidate, and was elected. It muſt be owned, that the dignity of that office had, before that time, run ſomewhat low, and Winterbottom, the late lord mayor, had been obliged, during his mayoralty, to accept of a place in the victualling-office, which had given great diſguſt to ſeveral worthy citizens. About the ſame time, the truſtees of Georgia, finding they could not ſupport that colony under its then conſtitution, ſurrendered to his majeſty the charter by which they were incorporated as a body politic; and a grant paſſed the great ſeal, inveſting his majeſty, his heirs and ſucceſſors, with the ſaid charter. Soon after, their excellencies the lords juſtices iſſued a proclamation for continuing all perſons in Caſe of ſir Peter Warren being choſen an alderman of London.

Geo. II. 1752. their reſpective offices in the ſame colony, until his majeſty's pleaſure be further known, or other proviſions made for its due government.

Practice of deſtroying inſured ſhips.

Amongſt the other enormous crimes of which this period was ſo fruitful, one was that of inſuring ſhips, for above their value, at ſeveral different offices, both abroad and at home, and then wilfully burning or ſinking them at ſea, in order to recover the premiums. The merchants and inſurers of London were fully convinced, that this practice was but too common, eſpecially in the weſt of England; but the ſame being extreamly hard to be proved, ſo as legally to convict the offenders, it had generally eſcaped with impunity. One Wilſon, however, a ſhip maſter, had been committed to Newgate for this crime, and probably would have been capitally convicted, had he not died in priſon. But two other perſons, Moſes Moravia and John Manowrie, were convicted, tho not capitally, of a conſpiracy to procure the ſhip Elizabeth and Martha, bound from London to Cork and Gibraltar, to be ſunk at ſea, with an intention of defrauding the inſurers. During this trial, which ended in the impriſonment, pillorying, and fining the criminals, ſuch a complicated ſcene of villany appeared, that it became a matter of public concern with the inſurers and merchants of London; and they applied themſelves to making other diſcoveries of the ſame nature. Mr. Benſon, a great ſhip owner and merchant at Appledore in Devonſhire, and member of parliament for Barnſtable in the ſame county, had, on account of the ſums he received from the inſurers, been ſuſpected of the like illicit practices; and at laſt a ſailor belonging to the crew of the ſhip called the Nightingale, belonging to Benſon, made affidavit of the ſaid ſhip, which was inſured, being burnt at ſea by the maſter, but by Benſon's orders. The maſter, one Lancey, was apprehended, carried to Exeter, and brought priſoner to London, where he was tried, condemned, and executed. But Benſon, who was proved to be the principal in this iniquitous practice, eſcaped to foreign parts.

State of the fiſhery ſociety.

Nothing, this year, amuſed the public more than the ſucceſs of the new fiſhery ſociety. The gentlemen concerned in it being themſelves entirely convinced of its utility and public benefit, exerted themſelves in an extraordinary manner, to convince others of the ſame. They met, ſubſcribed, and paid their money with great ſpirit; and notwithſtanding the loſs, which was conſiderable, with which they carried on the trade, they ſtill encouraged themſelves and the public, that

that next year would make amends for the preſent, and that their ill ſucceſs was owing to the vaſt numbers of foreigners who fiſhed upon the coaſts of Great Britain. Beſides that, the ſummer this year was remarkable for many dreadful ſtorms, which did prodigious damage both by land and ſea; but his majeſty ſafely arrived from Germany at St. James's on the 18th of November, and was congratulated on his arrival by the city of London. Soon after, ſeveral heart-burnings, which had been entertained in the court of the princeſs of Wales, amongſt thoſe to whom the education of the prince was committed, began to break out; and the earl of Harcourt, who had been appointed governor to his royal highneſs, with the biſhop of Norwich, who was his preceptor, reſigned their places. Upon which the earl of Waldgrave was appointed his governor, and the biſhop of Lincoln his preceptor. Geo. II. 1752.

Governor and preceptor appointed to the prince of Wales.

All the powers of Europe were at this time ſo intent upon their own intereſts, that very few foreign incidents of this year relate to Great Britain. The king of Portugal had been inſtructed by his miniſtry, that the vaſt exportation of gold coin out of his kingdoms, was a great detriment to his intereſt, and therefore he demanded of the Britiſh merchants in his dominions, to produce their books, in order to diſcover the amount of ſuch exportations: but they made ſo obſtinate a ſtand againſt this arbitrary order, that notwithſtanding ſome very ſevere methods purſued by his Portugueze majeſty, the order was dropt. This ſummer, the king of Great Britain, while at Hanover, had a diſpute with the king of Pruſſia concerning their reſpective pretenſions to Eaſt Friezland, of which his Pruſſian majeſty was in poſſeſſion. The Hanoverian miniſter at the diet of Ratiſbon, delivered a memorial to that aſſembly, demanding, that the emperor and the aulic council ſhould take cognizance of the affair: but his Pruſſian majeſty flatly refuſed to ſubmit to the deciſion of that tribunal. In June, the young prince of Orange received the order of the garter; and, much about the ſame time, colonel York, the Britiſh miniſter at the Hague, received orders to remonſtrate againſt ſome unfriendly practices carried on by the Dutch againſt the Engliſh upon the coaſt of Africa. About the ſame time, a treaty was concluded at Madrid, between the empreſs queen, and the kings of France and Spain, to which other powers, particularly the king of Sardinia, afterwards acceded, for preſerving the peace of Italy. But great differences ſtill ſubſiſted in the empire, on account of the demands which the elector Palatine had upon the court of Vi-

Affairs on the continent.

Geo. II. 1752.

enna, which amounted to upwards of 3,000,000 of florins, beſides 20,000 l. which he charged to his Britannic majeſty for the ſubſiſtance of his troops; and the ſame ſum was charged to the States General on the like account. As the vote of the elector Palatine was of great importance in the election of a king of the Romans, which continued ſtill to be the favourite meaſure of his Britannic majeſty and the Engliſh nation, the earl of Hyndford, who was at that time juſt returned from his ambaſſy at the court of Peterſburgh, had orders to repair to Vienna, to endeavour to adjuſt the matter. For the elector of Mentz having, at the requeſt of the majority of the electors of the empire, convoked an electoral diet for chuſing a king of the Romans, the electors of Cologne and Palatine entered a ſtrong proteſt againſt ſuch a convocation. Upon this the Imperial court, which had before ſhown a diſpoſition towards an accommodation with the elector Palatine, flatly refuſed to come to any terms; becauſe the loſſes which the elector alledged, according to her Imperial majeſty, were owing to himſelf, in declaring againſt the pragmatic ſanction after her father's death, which authorized her to proceed to hoſtilities againſt him. But at laſt, by the interpoſition of his Britannic majeſty, a treaty was drawn up, and ſigned by the elector Palatine, containing the following articles, viz. 1. "The indemnification of the demands of his electoral Palatine highneſs, is fixed at 1,200,000 florins, according to their value in Holland, of which the empreſs queen is to pay 500,000, the remaining 700,000 by the king and the States General, obſerving the proportion taken in former treaties: the payment to be made in three times; the firſt payment of 600,000 florins, and two others of 300,000 each. 2. The priviledge of non appellando for the dutchy of Deux-ponts, is granted to his electoral highneſs, as well as the expectative of ſucceeding to the fief of Oſſonan, after the extinction of the male branch of the houſe of Bade Bade. 3. His electoral highneſs ſhall concur with the other electors in the affair of the election of a king of the Romans, obſerving the cuſtoms preſcribed by the laws and conſtitutions of the empire. 4. He ſhall alſo join with them in ſettling the articles of capitulation of the king of the Romans future emperor." Notwithſtanding this treaty, the election of a king of the Romans continued ſtill to be oppoſed, in the ſtrongeſt manner, under pretext of carrying it on according to the laws and conſtitutions of the empire. One of the reaſons aſſigned for the oppoſition, on the part of the king of Pruſſia, was thought to be, that that prince, notwith-

notwithſtanding his being a proteſtant, ſecretly aſpired to that dignity himſelf, there being nothing in the golden bull that confines it to a Roman catholic. Geo. II. 1753.

The king of Pruſſia's expoſition about the Sileſia loan on account of his ſhips being ſeized. See vol. xx. p. 558.

Be this as it will, it is certain that his Pruſſian majeſty, about this time, beſides the differences between him and his Britannic majeſty about the principality of Eaſt Friezeland, appeared to be greatly piqued with the court of London, and omitted no opportunity of expreſſing it. The reader has already ſeen the captiouſneſs of his behaviour with regard to his ſhips which he pretended had been ſtopt by the Engliſh; but towards the end of the year 1752, and the beginning of the following year, he renewed the charge in a moſt unheard of manner, of which it is here neceſſary to give ſome explanation. In the year 1735, the emperor Charles VI. being ſtraightened for money, had, by his Britannic majeſty's permiſſion, with whom he was then in very good terms, borrowed from the ſubjects of Great Britain 250,000l. at 6 per cent. for which he mortgaged the ſilver mines in Sileſia. By the 7th article of the treaty of Breſlau, which ceded Sileſia to the king of Pruſſia, that prince charged himſelf wholly with the repayment of what was lent by the Engliſh merchants on the ſecurity of the revenues of Sileſia; and this treaty was guarantied by his Britannic majeſty. He accordingly continued to pay the loan very punctually, till the Michaelmas quarter 1752, when he ſtopt payment, and ordered a paper, which he entitled, "an expoſition of the motives for ſuch ſtoppage," to be publiſhed in juſtification of his conduct. In this paper he alledged, that 18 Pruſſian ſhips, and no fewer than 33 neutral ſhips, in which the Pruſſians were concerned, had been unjuſtly ſtopt and ſeized by the Engliſh privateers; together with ſeveral other allegations of hardſhips put upon his ſubjects. At the ſame time that he ordered this paper to be publiſhed, he ordered Michel, who acted as his miniſter at London, to preſent a memorial to the duke of Newcaſtle, one of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, enforcing his demands in a pretty peremptory manner. The duke of Newcaſtle immediately laid both the expoſition and the memorial before the king, who ordered them to be attentively examined by ſir George Lee, judge of the prerogative court, and doctor Paul, his majeſty's advocate general; ſir Dudley Ryder, the attorney general, and Mr. Murray, the ſollicitor general. The king of Pruſſia's claim, as liquidated by his own judges, amounted to 159,486 crowns principal, and 33,283 crowns intereſt, 1753.

Geo. II. 1753. intereſt, at the rate of 6 per cent. His Pruſſian majeſty allowed no more than three months for diſcuſſing the affair.

The report upon the ſame.

It was the 18th of February, 1753, before the report upon the expoſition and the memorial was finiſhed. It was reckoned a maſter-piece in its kind, and was attended by a letter from the duke of Newcaſtle; and both of them together contained a full refutation not only of the facts, but the principles upon which his Pruſſian majeſty had proceeded. It was plainly made appear, that the cognizance of captures by ſea, could only belong to the courts of that power where the ſeizure was made; and that his Pruſſian majeſty, therefore, could, with no conſiſtency of reaſon, and with no conformity to the law of nations, ſubmit them to the cognizance of his own courts. As to the facts, it appeared,

Subſtance of it,

That of the eighteen ſhips in the firſt Pruſſian liſt, four, if ever taken, were reſtored by the captors themſelves, to the ſatisfaction of the Pruſſians, who have never complained in any court of juſtice here. One was reſtored with full coſts and damages. Three were reſtored by ſentence, with freight for ſuch goods belonging to the enemy as were condemned. Four ſhips were reſtored by ſentence, but the cargo, or part of them, were condemned as contraband, and are not alledged to be Pruſſian property. Five ſhips and cargoes were reſtored by ſentence; but the claimant ſubjected to pay coſts, becauſe from the ſhip papers, &c. there was ground to have condemned them, and the reſtitution was decreed merely on the faith of affidavits afterwards allowed. One ſhip (the laſt of the 18) was reſtored upon an appeal; but from the circumſtances of the capture, without coſts on either ſide. That as to the liſt of 33 neutral ſhips, in whoſe cargoes the ſubjects of Pruſſia claim to have been intereſted, two of them never came before a court of juſtice in England, but (if taken) were reſtored by the captors themſelves, to the entire ſatisfaction of the owners. In ſixteen of them, the goods claimed by the Pruſſian ſubjects, appeared to have been actually reſtored by ſentence to the maſters of the ſhips in which they were laden; and by the cuſtoms of the ſea, the maſter is in place of the lader. In fourteen of the caſes, the Pruſſian property was not verified by the ſhips papers, or preparatory examinations, or the claimant's own affidavit, which he was allowed to make. The remaining cauſe with reſpect to the goods, was depending when the memorial and liſt was delivered to the Britiſh ſecretary of ſtate, and the goods have ſince been reſtored by ſentence.

The

The reſt of this curious piece turned upon general reaſoning; and to ſhow that, according to the ſtated courſe of proceedings in the courts of admiralty all over Europe, the Pruſſian ſubjects had not been injured. Above all, it was unanſwerably inſiſted upon, that the tranſaction between the late emperor and the creditors upon the Sileſia loan, was a private tranſaction. That the emperor, had a war broke out between him and Great Britain, could not have made repriſals upon it; and that the king of Pruſſia, upon the ceſſion of Sileſia by the empreſs queen, put himſelf in the emperor's ſtead, and therefore could make no repriſals upon that which was a private debt, and which, being transferrable, was now the property of many other ſubjects beſides thoſe of Great Britain. Notice was likewiſe taken, that by the contract with the late emperor, the whole of the loan ought to have been repaid in the year 1745; but that all the complaints brought by the Pruſſians, were upon facts that did not happen till 1746. Such were the chief heads of this famous memorial, the facts and reaſoning of which ſtruck the king of Pruſſia ſo much, that he very candidly gave up the point. Geo. II. 1753.

which ſatisfies his Pruſſian majeſty.

On the 11th of January this year, his majeſty opened the ſeſſion of parliament by a ſpeech, in which he took notice of the good diſpoſition he found in his allies to continue the tranquillity of Europe. He then acquainted the houſe of commons, that he had no ſupplies to aſk of them, but what ſhould be neceſſary for the ordinary ſervices. He earneſtly recommended to them the improvement of commerce and the revenue, and aſſured them, that he was ready to paſs any future laws that they ſhould judge requiſite for the reformation or quiet of the people.

King's ſpeech at the opening of the ſeſſion.

The addreſs in anſwer to this ſpeech, was moved for in the houſe of peers by the earl of Marchmont, and ſeconded by lord Archer; it contained nothing particular but a warm approbation of his maj ſty's meaſures. The addreſs in the houſe of commons was moved for by Mr. Charles York, ſon to the lord chancellor, and ſeconded by Mr. Tracy; but met with a ſtrong oppoſition, on account of the following paragraph, "We muſt ever acknowledge your majeſty's wiſdom, as well as goodneſs, in purſuing ſuch meaſures as muſt contribute to maintain and render permanent the general tranquillity in Europe. And ſuffer us, ſir, at the ſame time, to declare our ſatisfaction at the aſſurances your majeſty has received from your allies of their good diſpoſition to adhere to the ſame ſalutary object." The earl of E—— objected to the complimenting

Debate upon the addreſs.

Geo. II. 1753. plimenting his majeſty on his wiſdom on this occaſion, and in this he was ſeconded by ſome other members, who declaimed greatly againſt the whole ſyſtem of foreign meaſures that he had been adviſed to purſue. The addreſs, however, was carried without any diviſion, and was pretty much the ſame with that of the houſe of lords, both of them receiving moſt gracious anſwers from his majeſty. The number of forces this year was voted to be the ſame as the laſt, though the gentlemen in the oppoſition were for having no more than 15,000 continued; but their amendment was rejected by a majority of 253 againſt 65. The whole of the ſum granted this year, was divided as follows: for the current ſervice of 1753, 2,026,393l. for ſervices incurred, and not provided for, 87,801 l. and for deficiencies of former funds, 18,512 l. which in the whole, including their ſeveral fractions, amounted to 2,132,707l. 17s. 2½d. The amount of the national debt this year, amounted to 74,368,415l. 15s. 1d. The largeneſs of this debt, gave a handle for ſaying ſome very ſevere things againſt the œconomy of the miniſtry. But Mr. Pelham, in a very honeſt, yet reconciling, ſpeech, propoſed to continue the land-tax at 3s. in the pound, or to reduce it to 2s. in the pound, and to make up the deficiency, by applying the unappropriated money then in the Exchequer, amounting to above 230,000l. together with ſuch a ſum as ſhould be neceſſary to be taken from the ſinking fund, in which caſe it would be proper to continue the ſalt duty for ever, and to appropriate it to the ſinking fund, after payment of what was then charged upon it; but would not conclude with any motion, until he heard the ſentiments of the houſe upon *this* alternative. The ſenſe of the houſe, which at that time happened to be compoſed of landed gentlemen, went for the 2s. in the pound land-tax; in conſequence of which, the larger ſum was taken from the ſinking fund, and the duties upon ſalt was rendered perpetual.

Money granted.

Quarantine bill.

Some regulations this ſeſſion, though of no great conſequence, paſſed into an act for obliging ſhips more effectually to perform quarantine, and for preventing the plague being brought from foreign parts into Great Britain. An excellent bill paſſed, upon a petition from the merchants and inſurers of London, for inforcing the laws againſt perſons who ſhall ſteal or detain ſhipwreck'd goods. By this act, ſuch offences are to be proſecuted at the expence of the county where they were committed. On the 14th of February, no fewer than ten petitions were preſented from Liverpool, Great Yarmouth, and other places, complaining of a great decreaſe

Shipwreck bill.

in

in the exportation of woollen manufactures of theſe kingdoms to Turkey, occaſioned, as the petitioners apprehended, by an excluſive grant by a company of merchants trading thither; and alledging, that this monopoly had given the French, and other foreigners, an opportunity of ſupplanting us in that branch of commerce; and that the beſt method to regain that branch of trade, was to lay it open to all his majeſty's ſubjects; and therefore praying the houſe to give leave, that a bill might be brought in for laying open the trade to Turkey to all his majeſty's ſubjects, and to grant ſuch other relief to the petitioners in the premiſſes, as to the houſe ſhould ſeem meet. Other petitions to the ſame purpoſe poured in ſo faſt from other parts of the kingdom, that notwithſtanding an oppoſition offered to it by the Turkey company, the bill paſſed into a law; ſo that the qualification of a merchant trading to Turkey, was made to be no more than 20l. and all the tyrannies ſo much complained of in the company, were aboliſhed. On the 27th of the ſame month, leave was given to bring in a bill for permitting the exportation of wool and woollen, or bay yarn, from any port in Ireland, to any port in Great Britain; which, after meeting with various oppoſitions, particularly from the inhabitants of Lincolnſhire, where a great deal of wool grows, paſſed both houſes, and received the royal aſſent. Geo. II. 1753.

Turkey trade and company laid open by act of parliament.

By another bill, which paſſed this ſeſſion, the inhabitants of the city of Edinburgh were empowered to erect ſeveral public buildings, to improve the avenues to their city, and to enlarge and adorn the ſtreets and other places of public reſort. This was a very neceſſary bill, when the importance of that city, the ſecond as to dignity in the kingdom, is conſidered, and that it was moſt miſerably, at that time, deſtitute of all that could contribute to either the grandeur or the conveniency of the inhabitants. A public voluntary ſubſcription had been opened by the nobility and gentry for defraying the expences of carrying the purpoſes of the bill into execution; and the ſubſcribers had choſe truſtees, whom this act empowered to purchaſe lands, and to make the alterations required by the bill. This ſcheme was a very noble one, and, when carried into execution, will be one of the moſt magnificent memorials, of the many, with which his majeſty's reign is diſtinguiſhed.

Edinburgh bill.

Amongſt the many nuſances which had contributed to the general profligacy of manners ſo remarkable amongſt the common people at this time, the abuſe of alehouſes was one of the chief, and repreſentations from all places of the king-

Alehouſe bill for reforming licences.

Geo. II. 1753. dom were printed and ſent up to London upon that head. A bill was therefore brought in, and paſſed without any oppoſition, which tied down the juſtices of the peace to certain rules in granting licences for alehouſes; and impoſed more ſevere terms upon the keepers of them, to prevent their abuſe, by obliging them to find ſecurity of 10l. when they received their licences, beſides entering into a recognizance themſelves in the ſame ſum. Several other excellent regulations are inſerted in the ſame act. The famous broad wheel waggon bill, by which the fellies of the wheels were to be of the breadth of nine inches, likewiſe paſſed this ſeſſion.

Broad wheel act.

Jews naturalization act.

But two bills, which occaſioned great debates, muſt be more particularly attended to. The firſt was, an act which paſſed in the houſe of peers, and was ſent down to the commons, intitled, An act to permit perſons profeſſing the Jewiſh religion, to be naturalized by parliament, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned. Two or three capital petitions were preſented on this occaſion; one on the 21ſt of May, from ſeveral merchants and traders of the city of London, alledging, that the petitioners were of opinion, that the paſſing of this bill into a law, might encourage perſons of wealth and ſubſtance to remove with their effects from foreign parts into this kingdom, and encreaſe the credit and commerce of this nation; and therefore praying the bill might paſs into a law. But it was obſerved by the enemies of the bill, that almoſt all the ſubſcribers to this petition, were themſelves either Jews or foreigners, or perſons of very little conſequence in trade.

The ſame day was preſented, by the ſheriffs of London, againſt the bill, a petition of the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons of the city in common council aſſembled; which petition being read, expreſſed the apprehenſions of the petitioners, "that, ſhould the bill paſs into a law, the ſame would tend greatly to the diſhonour of religion, endanger our excellent conſtitution, and be highly prejudicial to the intereſt and trade of the kingdom in general, and the ſaid city in particular; and therefore praying that it might not be paſſed into a law." Both thoſe petitions were ordered to lye on the table, until the bill ſhould be read a third time; and next day after reading the order for that purpoſe, a petition was preſented to the houſe, and read, "of the ſubſcribing merchants and traders of the city of London, in behalf of themſelves and all other merchants and traders of Great Britain, alledging their being apprehenſive, that the bill, if paſſed into a law, would, in its conſequences, greatly affect our trade

trade and commerce with foreign nations, and particularly with Spain and Portugal, and would alſo be attended with many other very bad effects to the kingdom; and therefore praying that they might have leave, by themſelves or council, to offer their reaſons againſt paſſing the ſame into a law."

Geo. II. 1752.

A counter petition to this, was preſented by ſome woollen manufacturers and others concerned in ſhipping, in favour of the bill; alledging, that if it ſhould paſs into a law, it might encourage many perſons of wealth and ſubſtance to remove with their effects from foreign parts into this kingdom, the greateſt part of which, agreeable to the experience of former times, would be employed by them in foreign trade and commerce, and in encreaſing the ſhipping, and encouraging the exportation of the woollen and other manufactures of this kingdom, of which the perſons who profeſs the Jewiſh religion had, for many years laſt paſt, exported great quantities. The bill being ordered to be read a third time, thoſe petitions were ordered to lie on the table till then, and the petitioners were ſeverally heard againſt the bill, and witneſſes on all ſides were examined. The court party, who were in general for the bill, denied that it was a bill for naturalizing the Jewiſh nation. But it was anſwered, that a permiſſion for them to be naturalized by parliament, amounted, in fact, to the ſame thing. Becauſe, if any thing was meant by the bill, it was, that Jews might be permitted to be naturalized, upon ſuch and ſuch conditions as the parliament ſhould think proper; and that it could not be ſuppoſed but that many of them would be naturalized, which might, in time, be deſtructive of religion, and extreamly detrimental both to the clergy and the common people. It was ſaid, that the Jews, by their being naturalized, would acquire a right to purchaſe land eſtates, and thereby of having advowſons and preſentations to livings in their poſſeſſions, which might be attended with the worſt of conſequences to the eſtabliſhed church. That their manner of living was deſtructive to all hoſpitality and good neighbourhood amongſt Chriſtians; that their hatred to our religion, might induce them to make combinations amongſt themſelves, which would, in the end, prove deſtructive of it; and with regard to manufactures, that none of the Jews were manufacturers, but ſubſiſted entirely upon their brokerage for the labour of others.

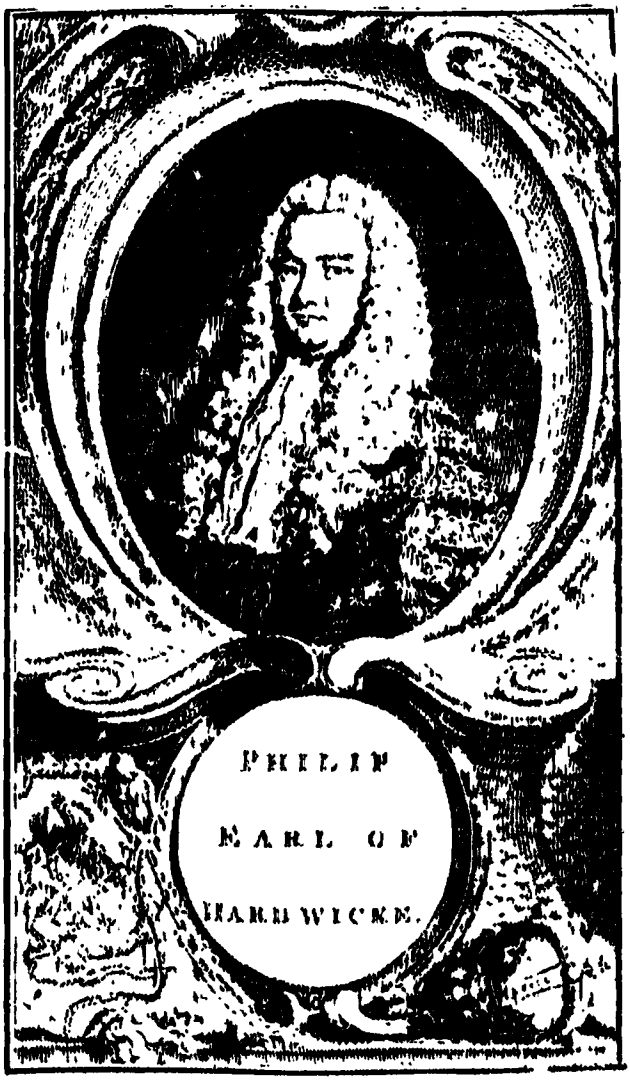
Its progreſs.

Some proviſion was made in the bill againſt Jews getting poſſeſſion of advowſons and preſentations to livings; but the other principles againſt the bill were ſtrongly defended by the favourers of it. The great utility of having a ſet of

moving

Geo. II. 1753. monied men reſiding in the kingdom, and exerting their influence over, almoſt, all parts of the world, in favour of Engliſh manufactures, was ſtrongly inſiſted upon; and the great expediency, founded on experience of naturalization bills of all kinds, were thought to be ſuch arguments, as recommended this bill to the public.

In this queſtion, the parliament had great conſideration to the ſentiments of the people. An appeal was made without doors in print, to the principles of the conſtitution, and particularly to the famous act which had been made againſt the Jews before, and after, their expulſion in the reign of Edward I. Many antient authorities, ſome of them produced from original records, were advanced on both ſides; but both of them miſtook the main point. For though it was plainly proved, that the Jews, at that time, lay under many, and thoſe infamous, diſabilities by acts of parliament, which were pretended to be ſtill ſubſiſting, yet, had the authors on both ſides, who handled this queſtion, dipped, a little deeper than they did, into antient records, they would have found, that the diſabilities and the cenſures they lay under, was not impoſed upon them on account of their religion as being Jews, but on account of their uſury and exactions; and that if a Chriſtian had been guilty of the ſame crimes, he muſt have been ſubjected to the ſame penalties. The queſtion was debated, perhaps, with more heat without doors, than it was within; but a vaſt majority of the public was againſt the bill, which ought to have been a ſufficient inducement for its being dropt, intirely upon the prudential conſideration. A great query upon this occaſion aroſe, whether a Jew, born in the Britiſh dominions, (ſuppoſing the act to be out of the queſtion) was a perſon capable by law to purchaſe and hold lands to him and his heirs for ever. Sir Robert Raymond, attorney general in 1718, was clearly of opinion in the affirmative, and ſo was ſir Thomas Bottle in the year 1723. Mr. Pigot, who ſeems to have been the only lawyer that underſtood the queſtion, expreſſed himſelf thus: "I am of opinion, that a Jew that is his majeſty's ſubject, born in England, or who has obtained letters patents of denization, may purchaſe lands. The ſtatute de judaiſmo, and the other old ſtatutes, relate to uſury; and there is not in them any thing that diſables them to purchaſe. In antient times, people excommunicated, lepers, Jews, and many others were diſabled to purchaſe, as appears by Bracton and our old authors; but I am of opinion, a Jew may purchaſe, becauſe I know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EARL OF
HARDWICKE.

know no law that diſables him or deprives him of that right of purchaſing he acquired by his being an Engliſh ſubject." Geo. II. 1753.

In ſhort, moſt of the common lawyers were of opinion, that Jews, natural born ſubjects of Great Britain, might purchaſe and hold lands. A great deal was likewiſe ſaid concerning the right of denization, which all foreigners, and Jews amongſt others, acquired by reſiding ſeven years in the Britiſh colonies. Notwithſtanding all thoſe arguments in favour of the Jews, the matter, upon the face of the old conſtitution, was certainly miſunderſtood by the advocates for them, who could not deny, that while they lived in England, they were the king's property, and that they had no benefit of the protection of the laws, but what they had from his prerogative. This aſſertion, (which undoubtedly was true) by not being explained had great effect on the minds of the public; and ſome perſons within doors, who were no friends to the meaſure, ſlackened in their oppoſition to the bill, becauſe of the unpopularity which they knew it would occaſion. Some debates, indeed, and thoſe very ſtrong ones, paſſed in the houſe of commons, and the earl of Egmont ſpoke moſt excellently, and almoſt prophetically, againſt the bill; which at laſt, however, paſſed both houſes, and had the royal aſſent. Opinions for the Jews. The bill paſſes.

Another bill paſſed this ſeſſion, which met with much ſtronger oppoſition. This was the bill for the better preventing clandeſtine marriages. The fatal conſequences of clandeſtine marriages had been long complained of in England, as rendering the ſucceſſion to all property unſecure and doubtful. Every day produced hearings of the moſt ſhocking kind in the court of chancery, and appeals in the houſe of peers, concerning the validity of ſuch marriages; and ſometimes the innocent offſpring was cut off from ſucceſſion, though their parents had been married, bona fide, becauſe of the irregularity of ſuch marriage. On the other hand, both women and men of the moſt infamous characters, had opportunities of ruining the ſons and daughters of the greateſt families in England, by conveniencies of marrying in the Fleet, and other unlicenced places; and marrying was now become as much a trade, as any mechanical profeſſion. Some recent inſtances of theſe evils coming before the houſe of peers, it was recommended to the judges, by ſome of the greateſt and moſt ſerious men in the nation, to prepare and bring in the bill, which they accordingly did; and having received great alterations in that houſe, it was ſent down to the commons. Account of the marriage act.

It does not fall within the compaſs of hiſtory, to reaſon how far the civil power alone had a right to judge in this

Geo. II. 1753. matter. The fact is, that the moſt ſurprizing oppoſition was immediately ſpirited up againſt it in the houſe of commons. Mr. Pelham was ſincerely for the bill, upon principles of private conviction. Others, perhaps upon the ſame principles, as warmly oppoſed it, as being calculated for engroſſing all the property in the kingdom amongſt great and rich families. The attorney and ſollicitor general had been at great pains to ſtudy the matter, and were zealous advocates for the bill, as was lord Barrington, with ſeveral other members of great weight and conſideration. Mr. Fox, who was then ſecretary at war, was as ſtrenuous an enemy to the bill: Mr. Nugent ſpoke with great warmth, and indeed with great abilities, againſt it, as did Mr. Townſhend, and many other gentlemen of the miniſterial, as well as the anti-miniſterial, party. In ſhort, the oppoſition to it was ſuch, that during its courſe through the houſe of commons, few clauſes in it remained unamended and unaltered even by the friends of the bill; and Mr. Fox holding it up in the houſe, as Anthony expoſed the murdered body of Cæſar, made a kind of a parody of the ſpeech in Shakeſpear upon that occaſion. Notwithſtanding this, the friends of the bill contended, that the principles of it were ſtill the ſame; and Mr. Pelham, beſides the private reaſons he had for being for the bill, began to think it now high time to ſupport it upon a political account, becauſe he thought that the oppoſition made, was not ſo much to the bill as to himſelf; and he was heard to talk to that purpoſe with more warmth, and leſs caution, than he uſed to do on other occaſions. This bill, however, paſſed, by a majority of 125 againſt 56; and being ſent to the houſe of lords, the amendments, after ſome debates, were agreed to, and it received the royal aſſent. Though it was the 4th of June before the bill paſſed the houſe of commons, and though the town was then not very full of members, yet it is certain that a great many of Mr. Pelham's friends, out of regard to him, and ſeeing how he was puſhed, abſented from the houſe, rather than be obliged to vote againſt him, and for a bill which they diſapproved of in their own minds. As to the bill itſelf, it is of ſo much public conſequence, that the reader will find the contents of it in the notes *, and experience

* By this ſtatute it is enacted, that the banns ſhall be publiſhed in the church or chapel of the pariſh where the parties dwell, three ſundays, or three meetings, except where morning ſervice is [illegible] and performed, immediately after the firſt time of publiſhing. If the parties dwell in different places, the banns muſt be publiſhed in each; and if in an extra-parochial place, where no divine ſervice is uſually

perience daily proves, that the evils apprehended from it were imaginary. Geo. II. 1753.

uſually celebrated, then in the parith church or chapel adjoining, and the marriage muſt be ſolemnized where the banns were publiſhed. The miniſter is not obliged to publiſh the banns, unleſs the parties give in their chriſtian and ſir names, the places of their abode, and the time they have dwelt in them, a week before the firſt publication. And when the banns have been thus publiſhed, the miniſter ſhall not incur eccleſiaſtical cenſure for ſolemnizing the marriage, altho' the parties ſhall appear to have been under age, and not to have obtained the conſent of their parents or guardians, unleſs he had previous notice of ſuch diſſent, and then he is to declare the banns void. No licence ſhall be granted to marry in any place, where one of the parties have not dwelt at leaſt a month, a ſpecial licence by the archbiſhop excepted. If marriage ſhall be ſolemnized in any other place than a church or chapel without a ſpecial licence, or in a public chapel without having publiſhed the banns, or a licence obtained of ſome perſon properly authorized, the marriage ſhall be void, and and the perſon who ſolemnized tranſported for ſeven years, if proſecuted within three. Marriage by licence, where either of the ſaid parties are under age, and conſent of parent or guardian has not been obtained, ſhall be void; provided the party under age be not a widow, and the parent refuſing conſent, be not a widow married again.

Where the conſent of a mother or guardian ſhall be capriciouſly refuſed, or the party non compos mentis, or beyond the ſea, the court of chancery may relieve in a ſummary way. No ſuit ſhall be had to compel a celebration of marriage upon pretence of any contract, whether the words of ſuch contract were in the preſent or future tenſe. All marriages to be before two witneſſes, beſides the miniſter, and an entry ſhall be made in a book kept for that purpoſe, expreſſing whether it was by banns or licence, and either of the parties under age; the conſent of parent and guardian ſhall be alſo entered, to be ſigned by the miniſter, the parties, and the witneſſes. Falſe entry, licence, or certificate, or deſtroying regiſter books, are felony, in principal or acceſſary, and to be puniſhed with death. This act is not to extend to the royal family, quakers, or Jews, or to affect any marriage in Scotland, or beyond the ſeas.

Nor is it neceſſary, in order to ſupport a marriage by banns, to prove the reſidence of the parties in the place where they were publiſhed; nor when by licence, to prove that they had reſided where the marriage was celebrated one month; nor ſhall any evidence be received to prove the contrary.

N. B. Notwithſtanding all the pains taken about this act, it ſeems to be very deficient, ſince it may be evaded by a journey to Scotland, or a trip to Bologne. One would think, therefore, that a ſhort act, annulling all the ſaid clandeſtine marriages, whether ſolemnized in England or elſewhere, would have been much more effectual.

Geo. II. 1753.

A motion this ſeſſion was made by Mr. Thornton, member for York, for bringing in a militia bill. This motion had been often made in former ſeſſions, and as the court could not decently oppoſe it, it was generally ſuffered to paſs; but upon ſome doubt, difficulty, or delay ariſing, the bill never had been carried into effect, which was likewiſe the fate of it this year.

Motion for a militia, dropt.

Petitions about ſugars.

At this time the common people of England were laid under a moſt intolerable kind of a tax, by the prodigious riſe of the price of Muſcavado ſugars imported from Jamaica, which made all ſugars manufactured in Great Britain, double the price of what they were manufactured for by the French and other nations. This hardſhip was ſtrongly ſet forth in a petition brought before the houſe of commons from the ſugar refiners, grocers, and other perſons dealing in ſugars in the cities of London and Weſtminſter, and the burrough of Southwark, and by another petition from the ſame dealers in the city of Briſtol. The aim of thoſe petitions, was to oblige the great proprietors of land in Jamaica, either to cultivate greater quantities of ground for the propagation of ſugar, or for the petitioners to obtain leave to import ſugars from other countries, when the prices of thoſe imported from Jamaica roſe above a certain price: they laying it as an allegation in their petition, that the ſugar planters in Jamaica, found their intereſt much more in importing ſmall than large, quantities of ſugar into Great Britain from that iſland. As the planters of Jamaica had their grievances likewiſe to complain of, they had ſent over a very ſtrong repreſentation of them, and of the lamentable ſtate of their iſland, to his majeſty, which alderman Beckford moved might be laid before the houſe. But this paſſed in the negative. A committee, however, of the whole houſe took into conſideration the petition of the Engliſh manufacturers of ſugar, and examined a great number of witneſſes and papers upon it; but ſuch difficulties aroſe, that nothing final was done in the matter this ſeſſion.

Reſolutions for peopling Jamaica with white.

Mr. Alderman Beckford, who had a great concern in this affair, undertook the defence of the ſugar planters on this occaſion. Several papers on that head had been moved for, which were accordingly preſented, from the commiſſioners of trade and plantations. Theſe papers, with a report from the commiſſioners, were referred to a committee, which on the 8th of March came to the following reſolutions, 1ſt, That the peopling the iſland of Jamaica with white inhabitants, and cultivating the lands thereof, is the moſt proper meaſure

meaſure for ſecuring that iſland, and for increaſing the trade and navigation between that iſland and Great Britain, as well as to and from other parts of his majeſty's dominions. 2d, That the endeavours hitherto uſed by the legiſlature of the iſland of Jamaica, to increaſe the number of white inhabitants, and to enforce the cultivation of lands, in the manner that may conduce beſt to the ſecurity and defence of that iſland, have not been effectual for theſe purpoſes." Theſe reſolutions being agreed to by the houſe, a bill was ordered in upon them; but it did not come into a law this ſeſſion, the miniſtry being in the dark as to the true ſtate of that iſland. Geo. II. 1753.

Another bill, which had not the good fortune to paſs into a law, made a great noiſe this ſeſſion. It was, "For taking and regiſtering an annual account of the total number of people, and of the total number of marriages, births, and deaths, and alſo a total number of poor receiving alms from every pariſh and extraparochial place in Great Britain." The great patron of this bill, was Mr. Potter, ſon to the late archbiſhop of Canterbury, who was looked upon as no inconſiderable ſpeaker in the houſe, and a man of more than middling abilities; but he was extreamly poſitive, and ſomewhat conceited of his own parts. The arguments with which the motion, which was certainly an important one, was ſupported, are well worthy of a place in hiſtory, "That an annual regiſter of the people, would produce many advantages of great importance, which could no otherwiſe be obtained. That it would aſcertain the collective ſtrength of the nation, and ſhew where the inhabitants are too numerous, and where they are too few. That when the exact number of our people is known, and not before, it might certainly be determined whether a general naturalization would be an advantage or a diſadvantage to the nation. It would appear what number of men might, upon a ſudden exigency, be levied for the army, and whether we gain or loſe by ſending our natives to ſettle colonies and plantations abroad, and troops and artificers for their accommodation and defence. That by purſuing this meaſure, we ſhould gain a police, or a local adminiſtration of civil government, upon certain and known principles, the want of which has been long a reproach peculiar to this nation, the diſcouragement of induſtry, and the ſupport of idleneſs." It was alſo alledged, that the pariſh regiſters, as they now are kept, are very defective, and ſo far from anſwering the purpoſes of the intended bill, that they do not, in many inſtances, enable the ſuitors in the courts of juſtice

History of the regiſter bill.

Geo. II. 1753. juſtice to recover their right, when no other evidence is wanting. That the poor, notwithſtanding innumerable regulations, are extreamly expenſive and burthenſome, altho' they are ſtill frequently ſuffered to periſh of diſeaſes and naſtineſs, of cold and hunger, and are often treated with cruelty and oppreſſion.

Thus, according to the advocates for this bill, it preſented an immediate remedy for moſt political and civil ailments of the internal part of the conſtitution. But others were of a very different opinion, and thought that it would encreaſe them all. Beſides the averſion that the Engliſh have to what looks like a general regiſter and an imitation of French policy, it was urged, that the method in which this regiſter was propoſed to be kept, would give the enemies of the nation opportunities of knowing both the ſtrength and the poverty of the public: that it would put it in the power of any future ill-deſigning miniſter, to carry into execution any ſcheme that may be ſubverſive of public liberty: that by the conſtruction of the bill, it put moſt exorbitant powers into the hands of pariſh and petty officers of the peace, and that to carry it into execution, would coſt the nation upwards of 50,000l. a year.

All thoſe, and ſeveral other, arguments againſt the bill, were enforced by Mr. Thornton when it came into the houſe of commons, where the patrons of it appeared to be ſo little ſolicitous about its ſucceſs, that no party was formed againſt it; and in the firſt diviſion, Mr. Thornton was the only member who divided againſt it. In the committee, freſh arguments were found neceſſary to be urged, particularly, that it would facilitate an equal aſſeſſment in raiſing the preſent taxes, and direct the legiſlature in impoſing others when they ſhould become neceſſary, and that it would aſcertain the lineal deſcents and relations of families.

To all this, Mr. Thornton very properly replied, that the bill, as it was drawn up and explained, tended to make all the public ſervice of the people coercive and not voluntary; and he mentioned, that the city (York) which he repreſented in the time of the late rebellion, had voluntarily raiſed by ſubſcription 24,35l. and the county 31,64l. which they never would have done, had the purpoſes of that bill been then in force. In ſhort, the arguments againſt the bill, upon conſideration, appeared ſo ſtrong, that they gained proſelites every day; and in the ſecond diviſion, Mr. Thornton went out with 2, then with 17 members, and the oppoſition in the courſe of the bill's progreſs amounted to 57; which number,

number, in the then ſtate of parties, was looked upon as a very conſiderable minority. It paſſed, however, through the houſe of commons with ſome amendment; but when it came into the houſe of peers, it was thought to be of ſo dangerous a tendency, that it was thrown out upon a ſecond reading. Geo. II. 1753.

Few other matters of general importance paſt this ſeſſion, excepting one, which claims to be gratefully mentioned by hiſtory, entitled, "An act for purchaſing the muſeum, or collection of ſir Hans Sloan, and of the Harleian collection of manuſcripts, and for providing one general repoſitory for the ſame, and for the Cottonian library, by a lottery." But that the reader may be informed of the grounds of this noble bill, it is neceſſary to have ſome retroſpect. and of the act for the Britiſh muſeum.

Sir Hans Sloan, by birth an Iriſhman, was, perhaps, the greateſt genius that ever exiſted for collecting curioſities of all kinds, eſpecially natural ones; though antiquities, gems, ſeals, and all artificial rarities, found admittance into his muſeum. When young, he went to Jamaica, as family phyſician to the duke of Albemarle, who was appointed governor of that iſland, and there he had an opportunity of amaſſing vaſt quantities of botanical, marine, and other natural productions. When he returned to England, he acquired money by his profeſſion to ſuch amount, as enabled him to gratify his favourite paſſion for encreaſing his collections; and his merits were ſo conſpicuous, that he was choſen a member of almoſt all the literary ſocieties, and made a knight and baronet by the kings George I. and II. to both whom he was firſt phyſician. In the year 1733, the articles of his curioſities, all of which were exquiſite in their kind, amounted to 69,352 particulars, including 3000 manuſcripts, and the printed volumes in his collection were 42,000; but at the time of his death, as the reader will ſee in the notes[a], they greatly exceeded

[a] The library, including about [illegible] volumes of drawings and illuminated books, 5510 volumes of manuſcripts, together with the books of prints, conſiſted of about 50,000 volumes; medals and coins, antient and modern, about [illegible]; antiquities, vaſes, urns, ſculpture, &c. 1125; [illegible], &c. 208; cameos and intaglios, &c. above 700; pieces, as precious ſtones, agates, jaſpers, &c. 2256; veſſels, &c. of agate, jaſper, &c. 542; chryſtals, ores, &c. 1064; foſſils, fluors, &c. 1275; metals, minerals, ores, &c. 1725; earths, ſands, &c. 1035; bitumens, ſulphurs, ambers, ambergreaſe, &c. 109; ſalts, mines, &c.; teſtacia or ſhells, 5843; corals, ſponges, &c. 1421; echini, echinites, &c.

Geo. II. 1754. ceeded theſe numbers. Dying in the beginning of this year, at his houſe in Chelſea, where thoſe immenſe collections were preſerved, it appeared by his will, that an offer of them was to be made to the king or parliament of Great Britain for 20,000l. to be paid to his executors for the uſe of his daughters; but if the 20,000l. was not paid in a year after his death, then, on the ſame condition, they were to be offered to the academy of ſciences at Peterſburgh, and to thoſe of Paris, Berlin, and Madrid; and if all thoſe refuſe them upon thoſe terms, which were but a fourth part of their value, the executors were directed to ſell them in ſuch manner, as they ſhould think expedient for the above purpoſes.

Soon after his death, a meeting of the truſtees, appointed by his will, was held at his houſe in Chelſea; and it was reſolved, that a memorial ſhould be preſented to his majeſty upon the ſubject of the will. The event was, that ſome public ſpirited gentlemen, at the head of whom was the ſpeaker of the houſe of commons, thought that the propoſal might be converted into a national uſe. Robert earl of Oxford, lord high treaſurer of England, towards the end of queen Anne's reign, and his ſon and ſucceſſor Edward, had alſo made a very large collection of manuſcripts of all kinds, eſpecially of thoſe relating to the hiſtory and antiquities of Great Britain. The property in this collection coming into the hands of the dutcheſs of Portland, daughter to the laſt mentioned earl, ſhe generouſly offered it to the public for 10,000l. which was but a very ſmall part of the value of the collection. At the ſame time, the Cottonian library, which had been given to the public by the Cotton family, and had long been ſo famous all over Europe, eſpecially for its vaſt collection of Britiſh hiſtorical manuſcripts, was, with the king's library, which was likewiſe a very fine one, lodged, in a very unbecoming man-

659; aſteriæ, trochi, entrochi, &c. 241; cruſtatia or crabs, &c. 763; ſtellæ, marinæ, &c. 173; fiſhes and their parts, 1555; birds and their parts, eggs and their nells of different ſpecies, 1172; vipers, ſerpents, &c. 521; quadrupedes, &c. 1886; inſects, 5439; humana, as calculi anatomical preparations, &c. 756; vegetables and ſeeds, gums, roots, woods, 12,506; hortus ſiccus, or volumes of dry'd plants, 3334; miſcellaneous things, natural, &c. 2098; pictures and drawings framed, &c. 310; mathematical inſtruments, 55. All the above particulars are numbered and entered, with ſhort accounts of them, and references of ſeveral writers who have hitherto wrote about them, in 38 volumes in folio, and 8 in quarto.

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ner, within the old Dormitory at Weſtminſter, where the books and manuſcripts were expoſed to the injuries of the weather. The above gentlemen, therefore, projected to unite all thoſe collections under one roof, which they happily effected, by means of the fore-mentioned bill; and this amazing muſæum is now to be ſeen at Montague houſe, under proper regulations of its governors and truſtees, who are compoſed of the moſt eminent perſons in the kingdom for their ſtations or learning, and all of them appointed in [a] conſequence of an act of parliament. Geo. II. 1754.

On the 7th of June, his majeſty put an end to this ſeſſion of parliament by his ſpeech, in which he thanked them for the great things they had done, both for himſelf and for the public. He informed them, "That the ſtate of foreign affairs had received no material alteration ſince their meeting; and that they might depend upon his purſuing the ſame principles and ends, which he then declared to them; and that to preſerve the peace, to conſult the real proſperity of his people, and at the ſame time to aſſert and maintain the honour and juſt rights of his crown and kingdoms, were the fixed objects of all his meaſures." He then concluded in the following

King's ſpeech at the cloſe of the ſeſſion

[a] Tueſday, December 11.

The archbiſhop of Canterbury; lord high chancellor, or lord keeper; lord high treaſurer, or firſt lord commiſſioner of the treaſury; lord preſident of the council, lord privy ſeal; lord high admiral, or firſt lord commiſſioner of the admiralty; lord ſteward of his majeſty's houſehold; lord chamberlain, ditto; biſhop of London, two ſecretaries of ſtate, ſpeaker of the houſe of commons, chancellor of the exchequer, lord chief juſtice of the king's bench, maſter of the rolls, lord chief juſtice of the common pleas, attorney general, ſollicitor general, preſident of the royal ſociety, preſident of the college of phyſicians. All above for the time being. Charles lord Cadogan, Hans Stanley, eſq; Samuel Burrows, eſq; Thomas Hart, eſq; William duke of Portland, Edward earl of Oxford and Mortimer.

The archbiſhop, the lord chancellor, and the ſpeaker of the houſe of commons, have the nomination of all the officers, aſſiſtants, and ſervants. A conſiderable number of the above-named truſtees met this day at the Cockpit, and in purſuance of the directions of the ſaid act, elected the fifteen following perſons additional truſtees, viz. Archibald duke of Argyle, Hugh earl of Northumberland, lord Charles Cavendiſh, Hugh lord Willoughby of Parham, honourable Philip York, eſq; ſir George Lyttleton, bart. William Sloane, eſq; James Weſt, eſq; Nicholas Hardinge, eſq; ſir John Evelyn, bart. Charles Grey, eſq; William Sotheby, eſq; Thomas Birch, D. D. John Ward, L. L. D. Mr. William Watſon, F. R. S.

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lowing words: "I have nothing to deſire of you, but what I am perſwaded you wiſh for yourſelves. Do your utmoſt endeavours in your ſeveral countries to promote the true intereſt and happineſs of my people, to propagate induſtry, and to preſerve good order and regularity amongſt them; make them ſenſible of the bleſſings they enjoy, and by theſe means the quiet and ſecurity of my government will be beſt eſtabliſhed." The parliament was then prorogued by the lord chancellor to the 13th of Auguſt following.

The domeſtic tranſactions of this year in England, conſiſted chiefly of the great and melancholly effects of ſtorms, tempeſts, and inundations that happened in different parts, and in the continuance of that ſhocking immorality which filled the jails with criminals of all kinds. One incident happened, which, though in its own nature was one of the moſt inconſiderable that can be well imagined, yet in its conſequences grew to be ſo conſiderable, as to endanger, and, in fact, to diſturb the peace of the public. A girl, one Canning, pretended, that on New-year's day, 1753, as ſhe was coming home at night, was met by two men under Bedlam wall, who pulled off her cap, gown, and apron, gagg'd her, and threatened to cut her throat if ſhe made any noiſe. That the men forced her along on foot, till, about four in the morning, they came to the houſe of one Wells, near Enfield Waſh, where a woman cut off her ſtays, and forced her into a room, where for a month her only ſuſtenance was but a quartern loaf, and that too in ſtale cruſts; and that all this ſeverity was to induce her to turn proſtitute. And that at length ſhe found means to break through a window, almoſt naked, and to run home in that condition, in the night of the 29th of January.

Caſe of Elizabeth Canning, an eminent impoſtor.

Though nothing could be more improbable, and, indeed, in ſome reſpects, impoſſible, than this narrative, yet it ſo worked upon the paſſions of the common people, eſpecially the enthuſiaſts of all denominations, that large ſubſcriptions were immediately ſet on foot, and levied, for the uſe of the girl, and for bringing the delinquents to juſtice. By Canning's deſcription, the houſe was found out; warrants were iſſued for apprehending the miſtreſs, the maid, and an old Gipſey woman one Mary Squires, whom Canning charged with robbing her of her ſtays. The miſtreſs, who did not appear to be guilty of the felony, was ſentenced by the court as a common baud. The maid, whoſe name was Hall, being intimidated by the juſtice who examined her, turned evidence for Canning; and the Gipſey woman was indicted and tried for

for felony. Upon her trial, ſhe brought the ſtrongeſt proofs of her being at Abbotſbury in Dorſetſhire, the very night the ſelony was ſaid to be committed, and many contradictions on Canning's part, and that of her friends, appeared in the courſe of the trial. But ſuch was the prepoſſeſſion of the people, that the Gipſy's witneſſes, though perſons of unqueſtionable credit, were ſcarcely attended to; and ſome of them were ſo intimidated, that they durſt not enter the court; and the three who ſwore for her, were put in danger of their lives when they went out. In ſhort, the ſpirit againſt the Gipſey run ſo high, that ſhe was found guilty of death. Notwithſtanding this verdict, ſir Criſpe Gaſcoyne, then lord mayor, and ſome other gentlemen, obſerved ſo much heat, paſſion, and partiality in all the proceedings againſt the Gipſey, and ſo much improbability in the charge upon which ſhe was convicted, that they began to intereſt themſelves in her favour. A great number of affidavits, all from perſons of unqueſtionable credit, were ſent up, proving the alibi of Squires, and application was made to the throne itſelf for mercy. The affair was referred to the attorney and ſollicitor general, who examined the evidences on all ſides, made the report to the king and council in her favour, and his majeſty was pleaſed to pardon her. The matter, by this time, had divided the lower ranks of the people into two parties; and the infection had even ſpread to the high ones. No enthuſiaſt, however poor, grudged to contribute ſomewhat to the ſupport of Canning. Generous ſubſcriptions were advertiſed, and large ſums raiſed, even amongſt the rich, for proſecuting the Abbotſbury men, upon whoſe evidence the pardon had been granted, for perjury. The gentlemen, who had engaged againſt Canning, on the other hand, thought, that for their own reputations, as well as for the ſake of truth, ſo infamous an impoſture ought to be detected and puniſhed. In ſhort, bills of perjury, on both ſides, were preferred. At firſt, both were rejected, and after, with equal reaſon, both were found. After a full and impartial trial, the Abbotſbury men were acquitted, and Canning abſconding, warrants were iſſued out to apprehend her. And in the beginning of the year 1754, ſhe ſurrendered to take her trial, which, by the arts of her friends was rendered the longeſt, perhaps, ever known before an Engliſh criminal court; although the alibi of Squires the Gipſey, at the time Canning ſwore ſhe committed the felony, was proved beyond the poſſibility of a doubt, as likewiſe were the contradictions which Canning had been guilty of in the courſe of her examination and evidence.

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Geo. II. 1754. evidence. Notwithſtanding this, it ſeemed, as if the more guilty ſhe was proved, the more was the mob inflamed in her favour. They inſulted ſir Criſpe Gaſcoyne in a moſt audacious manner; and it was unſafe for any gentleman, who had the virtue or courage to countenance the proſecution, to ſtir abroad. This rendered the jury extreamly cautious how they proceeded; but an expreſs contradiction, upon oath, being diſcovered againſt Canning, they at laſt, with great difficulty, brought her in guilty. To the reproach, however, of the laws of England, nothing ſeverer could be inflicted upon her, than tranſportation to the Britiſh colonies.

Canning found guilty, and tranſported.

Doctor Cameron executed.

In April this year, doctor Cameron, brother to the famous rebel Lochiel, having, notwithſtanding his being attainted, ventered over to Scotland, was there ſeized. It was ſaid, with ſome foundation of truth, that he had undertaken that voyage, to reclaim ſome of the money that had been ſent from France to the young pretender, and which had been embezzled amongſt the other rebels. Be this as it will, the firſt intelligence of his going for Scotland, came from Berlin to the earl of Albemarle at Paris, who informed his court of it, and Cameron being taken, was firſt committed to the Tower of London, and being brought up before the court of King's Bench, the identity of his perſon was proved, and making no defence, he was ordered for execution, which he ſuffered at Tyburn the 7th of June with great firmneſs and decency, but without diſclaiming the traiterous principles for which he died.

Tumults.

The vaſt exportation of corn, which had proved ſo gainful to England, created this year ſome inteſtine commotions, which gave great trouble to the civil power, particularly at Briſtol, where an inſurrection, on account of the dearth of bread and corn, roſe to an alarming height. A great body of colliers, and other people, made a kind of an invaſion upon that city, and though treated with the utmoſt mildneſs by the magiſtrates, they began to plunder a veſſel of corn loaded for exportation; but they were beat off by the officers of the peace, no troops being then in the city. This laſt circumſtance encouraged the rioters to renew their attack with greater force, and the tumults roſe ſo high, that a ſtop was put to all buſineſs in the city. At laſt, after many ſkirmiſhes between the rioters and the townſmen, who had put themſelves under arms, a troop of the Scotch grey dragoons arriving, an end was put to the tumults in favour of the inhabitants, but not without the loſs of ſeveral lives, and many being wounded on both ſides.

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The like tumults were raiſed this year in Yorkſhire, on account of the turnpikes, many of which the mob demoliſhed. At Leeds, the civil power was obliged to ſend for a detachment of dragoons, to ſupport the collectors of the tolls about that town. But this ſeemed to have no other effect, than to make the mob more inſolent; for they broke into the town, and attacked the troops, who at laſt, in their own defence, fired upon and killed eight or nine of the rioters, beſides wounding about 24. The like riots happened at Mancheſter, and many other places of the north of England, ſome of them on account of the turnpikes, others on account of the dearneſs of proviſions, which made the journeymen and labourers inſiſt upon an augmentation of their wages. Geo. II. 1754.

Though his majeſty, in his ſpeech at the riſing of the parliament, ſaid, with great juſtice, "that the ſtate of foreign affairs had received no material alteration ſince their meeting," yet never was there a juncture when, in time of peace, ſo many important points remained to be ſettled, and ſo many ambitious ſchemes were formed by the powers upon the continent. Before proceeding to the hiſtory of the tranſactions previous to the formal declarations of war between France and Great Britain, which ſoon after happened, it is here neceſſary, for the ſake of perſpicuity, to premiſe ſome account of the reſpective pretentions of both nations as founded upon treaties. By the twelfth article of the treaty of Utrecht, it is ſtipulated, "That his moſt Chriſtian majeſty ſhall remit to the queen of Great Britain, all letters and authentic deeds and acts, as ſhall ratify the ceſſion which has been made to the crown of Great Britain for ever, of Nova Scotia, otherwiſe called Acadia, in its whole extent, according to its antient limits; alſo the town of Port Royal, now called Annapolis Royal, and in general all that belongs to the ſaid lands and iſlands of the ſaid territory, with the ſovereignty, property, poſſeſſion, and right acquired by treaty or otherwiſe with his moſt Chriſtian majeſty, which the crown of France, or its ſubjects, have had to the ſaid lands, iſlands, and territory with their inhabitants; ſo as his moſt Chriſtian majeſty cede and tranſfer the whole to the ſaid queen and crown of Great Britain, in a manner and form ſo full, that the ſubjects of his moſt Chriſtian majeſty ſhall be hereafter excluded from all kinds of fiſhing in the ſaid ſeas, bays, and other places within 30 leagues of Nova Scotia to the ſouth, commencing from the iſle commonly called iſle Sable incluſive, and proceeding S. W."

See vol. XVIII. p. 284.

Tranſactions with the French about the bounderies of America.

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The 13th article is as follows: "The iſland called Cape Breton, and all others whatſoever ſituated in the gulph and mouth of the river St. Laurence, ſhall remain the property of France." When the Britiſh commiſſaries met thoſe of France at Paris, they found them prepared with maps, drawings, and other papers, to prove that the country ceded by the above 12th article of the treaty of Utrecht, begins at the extremity of the bay of Fundy, extends along the coaſt, and terminates at cape Canſo; whereas the Engliſh contended, that it comprehended all the tract compriſed between Penobſcot, or Pentagoet, the river St. Laurence, and the Atlantic ocean. The difference was ſo important, that upon the deciſion of the queſtion, depended no leſs than the future property of North America. The maps and drawings produced by the French, were all framed and drawn by themſelves; and their geographers had contrived boundaries, marked out rivers, and chriſtened nations, in an arbitrary manner, ſo as to ſuit their own claims. It is foreign to hiſtory to relate all the chicanery and quibbles upon words with which they ſupported their claims. It is, however, certain, from the plain, natural conſtruction of the words upon the face of the treaty, that all Acadia is ceded to the Engliſh, and that this ceſſion comprehends all that was called Nova Scotia.

Their ſhuffling conduct.

But their encroachments went even farther, and this year they began to make ſettlements upon the river Ohio, within the limits of the Britiſh poſſeſſions in the weſtern parts of Virginia. They had likewiſe committed many hoſtilities againſt the Britiſh ſubjects in other parts of America, to which their commiſſaries did not even pretend a right; and the Britiſh commiſſaries and governors there having ſent an account to the government of Great Britain of thoſe hoſtilities and encroachments, the earl of Albemarle received inſtructions to expoſtulate with the French miniſtry upon thoſe heads. In complaints of very little conſequence, he ſometimes received ſatisfaction, and in all, words and fair promiſes. Sometimes it was pretended, that the French governors and commandants in America, had gone beyond their inſtructions; ſometimes, counter repreſentations were produced; ſometimes the complaints were promiſed to be examined into; but all the while, the French were multiplying their hoſtilities and and ſtrengthning their uſurpations by new recruits of men, money, proviſions of all kinds, and ammunition, and ſome of the beſt officers in France. As to the conferences of the commiſſaries, it was to no purpoſe they met. The French diſregarded

diſregarded all the memorials preſented by the Engliſh commiſſaries, who finding nothing could be done, but that the French obſtinately adhered to the arbitrary ſyſtem they had laid down, were recalled, and the conferences broke up. Geo. II. 1754.

Mr Pelham and his friends, who were at this time at the head of the Engliſh miniſtry, had employed all their credit with the court of France to keep matters eaſy in America. At firſt, they imagined that the diſputes were immaterial, and that the complaints had been fomented by private perſons for particular purpoſes. But matters growing every day more ſerious, it was thought proper to call the parliament together, which accordingly met this year on the 15th of November. His majeſty's ſpeech upon this occaſion informed them, "That the events of this year, had not made it neceſſary for him to offer any thing in particular to their conſideration relating to foreign affairs. That the continuance of the public tranquillity, and the general ſtate of Europe, remained on the ſame foot as they did when they laſt parted; and they might be aſſured of his ſteadineſs in purſuing the moſt effectual meaſures to preſerve to his people the bleſſings of peace." The concluſion of his ſpeech was as follows: Meeting of the parliament. King's ſpeech.

"I am ſorry to be obliged again to mention to you a ſubject, which reflects diſhonour to the nation, as well as creates great danger and miſchief to my good ſubjects. It is with the utmoſt regret I obſerve the horrid crimes of robbery and murder are of late rather encreaſed than diminiſhed. I am ſenſible, that works of reformation are not to be effected at once, but every body ſhould contribute their beſt endeavours; and let me earneſtly recommend to your ſerious attention this important object. Whatſoever ſhall be found expedient, either in this or in any other reſpect, for the welfare and happineſs of my people, ſhall meet with my hearty concurrence and ſupport."

The addreſs of thanks upon this ſpeech in the houſe of peers, was made by the lord Delaware, and ſeconded by lord Cathcart. That in the houſe of commons, was made by Mr. Wm. Lyttleton, and ſeconded by Mr. Collington. Both addreſſes were extremely loyal, and both paſſed without any debate. Many circumſtances concurred to make this one of the moſt unanimous ſeſſions ever known in the houſe of commons. Mr. Pelham's candour and punctuality in fulfilling all his profeſſions, whether public or private, had gained him many proſelytes, and even ſome of the warmeſt of thoſe who called themſelves the country party; while they who were inclined to oppoſe him, on views both of intereſt and ambition, Unanimity of the parliament.

Geo. II. 1754. tion, found they only expoſed their own weakneſs in attempting it. The party that had been formed againſt him, during the lifetime of the late prince of Wales, was now diſſipated, and a wonderful ſpirit of loyalty began to take place all over the kingdom, which was chiefly owing to the affectionate manner in which his majeſty, the princeſs of Wales, and the royal progeny had lived within themſelves. The reciprocal marks of endearment between his majeſty and them, touched the hearts of the ſubjects, and the unanimity without doors correſponded with that within. Add to thoſe conſiderations, that this being the laſt meeting of the parliament in the houſe of commons, the ſeſſion was but thin; gentlemen being employed in making intereſt for their being re-elected; and thoſe who attended, ſaw the ſtream of popularity run ſo ſtrong in favour of the court, that they thought it imprudent to oppoſe the miniſtry. Notwithſtanding all thoſe fair appearances, any miniſter of leſs popularity than Mr. Pelham, muſt have ſoon after been overſet by the ſtorm of popular diſcontent, which aroſe in the nation on account of the bill for allowing the Jews to be naturalized, which paſſed laſt ſeſſion. Without ſpecifying particulars, it is ſufficient to ſay, that the whole body of the common people of England, and many even of high rank, were inflamed almoſt to madneſs againſt the bill, and ſollicited a repeal of it by inſtructions to their ſeveral members. The government was too wiſe to think of oppoſing ſuch a torrent, and Mr. Pelham and his brother ſoon made it publickly known, that they ſhould be the firſt to beſtir themſelves in parliament for a repeal of the bill. Some of their beſt friends were, through principle, violently attached to the bill, and endeavoured to perſwade them to deſpiſe popular clamour, and that if they indulged it by favouring a repeal upon that occaſion, no public meaſure, diſagreeable to the mob, could be carried into execution. But they thought that the bill of itſelf was not of importance ſufficient to hazard the conſequences of ſo univerſal a deteſtation; therefore, on the firſt day of the ſeſſion, the duke of Newcaſtle, in the houſe of peers, preſented to them a bill to repeal an act of the 26th year of his majeſty's reign, intitled, "An act to permit perſons profeſſing the Jewiſh religion to be naturalized by parliament, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned." This bill met with little oppoſition. A clauſe had been inſerted in the bill to be repealed, for diſabling all naturalized jews to purchaſe, inherit, or take any advowſon or preſentation, or other right or intereſt in, or to, any benefice, prebend, or other eccleſiaſtical living or

Jews naturalization bill repealed.

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or promotion, ſchool, hoſpital, or donative, or any grant of an avoidance thereof." By the firſt draught of the act for the intended repeal, this clauſe was not to be repealed; but the enemies of the Jews imagined, that if that clauſe ſhould ſtand, it would imply, that the Jews might purchaſe or inherit any other kind of property in the kingdom; which was, they thought, a very diſputable point, and therefore the clauſe in queſtion was repealed with the reſt of the bill. Some of the lords, however, thought it greatly below the dignity of the houſe, to make and repeal laws, according to the caprice of a mob. The earl of Granville and lord chancellor were of that opinion, as was lord Raymond; but the nobleman who diſtinguiſhed himſelf moſt upon this occaſion, was earl Temple, who had lately come to that dignity upon the death of his mother, ſiſter to the late lord Cobham. Though he was, at laſt, almoſt ſingle in oppoſing the repeal, yet he continued his oppoſition with great ſpirit. Some of the biſhops endeavoured to vindicate the conſiſtency of their conduct in voting for the bill, which, they ſaid, they had conſidered only in a political light; but the biſhop of London was at great pains to ſhow it muſt have influenced and endangered religion, had it taken place. The majority of the houſe agreed, that the bill to be repealed, was a matter of great indifference, nor did they concern themſelves either in impeaching or vindicating it, and without farther debate, it paſſed that houſe, and was ſent to the commons. Geo. II. 1754.

Proceedings thereupon.

There the addreſs of thanks was no ſooner moved for, and agreed to, than ſir James Daſhwood moved for a call of the houſe in a fortnight, to take the act, permitting Jews to be naturalized, into their conſideration. This was not thought a regular motion, it being unuſual to ſpecify any particular reaſon for calling a houſe; but he was ſeconded by his opponent the lord Parker, in his motion for a call in general. But the bill coming from the lords, rendered the call unneceſſary, and Mr. Pelham was amongſt the firſt who ſpoke in favour of the repeal; when it was violently oppoſed by Mr. Potter, in a torrent of declamation. Sir George, afterwards lord, Lyttleton, anſwered him with great temper, in a moſt excellent ſpeech, in which he ſhewed the folly of ſupporting an act, ſo indifferent in itſelf, againſt the ſenſe of a whole people, and that too, at the eve of a general election. He mentioned, very properly, that a learned divine (doctor Delauny) had wrote a book againſt eating blood, which, in his own mind, he thought to be a matter of great

Geo. II. 1754. indifference; but if it ſhould ſo happen, that addreſſes againſt eating blood ſhould come up from the whole nation, he could not then think it a matter of indifference, becauſe it ceaſed to be ſo by the conſequences that attended it. That, with regard to the act itſelf, he had the ſame opinion of it, as he had when he voted for it; but he thought that the univerſal oppoſition it met with, had changed its complexion, and that therefore he would be heartily for the repeal: This ſpeech met with little or no reply, but when the bill came into the committee, the preamble to it occaſioned ſome heat. It was as follows: "Whereas an act of parliament was made, and paſſed, in the 25th year of his majeſty's reign, intitled, An act to permit, &c. And whereas occaſion has been taken from the ſaid act, to raiſe diſcontents and diſquiets in the minds of many of his majeſty's ſubjects; be it enacted."

Debate. Some gentlemen, who had all along oppoſed the bill, thought that thoſe words in the preamble, contained an indecent reflection upon the almoſt univerſal ſenſe of the people of England. Sir Roger Newdigate, therefore, moved to leave out the words, "occaſion has been taken to raiſe diſcontents and diſquietudes," and to inſert in their ſtead, "great diſcontents and diſquietudes had, from the ſaid act, ariſen in." The friends of the bill, however, ſtuck to the preamble, that they might ſet a note of reprobation upon the factious ſpirit of the time, even while they were indulging it. Amongſt others who ſpoke upon this occaſion, was Mr. Sydenham, who, though a violent churchman, had at firſt voted for the bill that was now to be repealed; becauſe he thought that it tended to bring the Jews within the pale of chriſtianity. He now declared, however, that upon conſulting ſome eminent divines, he had altered his opinion. After a long debate, in which ſeveral gentlemen, who were apprehenſive of not being re-elected, ſpoke againſt the bill, and for the repeal, the amendment was rejected, and the repeal being carried through, received the royal aſſent the ſame ſeſſion.

But the enemies of the Jew-bill carried their reſentment againſt it farther than a bare repeal. By an act then in force, intitled, "An act for naturalizing ſuch foreign proteſtants, and others therein mentioned, as are ſettled, or ſhall ſettle, in any of his majeſty's colonies in America." All Jews complying with the terms of that act, were intitled, to all intents and purpoſes, to be naturalized in England, and conſequently the repeal of the act might be of very little ſignification. Therefore Mr. Cooke, one of the members for Middleſex,

Middleſex, moved for an addreſs to his majeſty, that he would give directions for laying before that houſe a copy of the liſts tranſmitted by the ſecretaries of his majeſty's reſpective colonies in America, to the office of the commiſſioners of trade and plantations, containing an account of the names of all ſuch perſons profeſſing the Jewiſh religion, who had, ſince June 1, 1740, intitled themſelves to the benefit of the ſaid act. This motion being agreed to, the papers were laid before the houſe; but it appeared, that very few Jews had taken the benefit of the act. Lord Harley, however, eldeſt ſon to the earl of Oxford, upon conſideration that a great number of Jews might become naturalized ſubjects by that act, and that thoſe who did, were free from the reſtrictions of other acts of naturalization, moved for leave to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of the ſaid act, as related to perſons profeſſing the Jewiſh religion who ſhould come to ſettle in any of the ſaid colonies after a time to be limited. This motion occaſioned a great deal of debate, and was oppoſed by all who had been friends to the bill that had been repealed; but at laſt it was rejected by a majority of 208 againſt 88, but without having any remarkable influence upon the public. Geo. II. 1754.

Proceedings upon the diſtemper amongſt the cattle.

This troubleſome affair being over, the houſe of commons proceeded to provide againſt the diſtemper, which ſtill continued to make dreadful havock amongſt the horned cattle; and having come to ſome very proper reſolutions on that head, a bill was brought in upon them, which paſſed the houſe of commons, but was dropt in the houſe of peers. Upon this, another bill was brought into the houſe of commons, for continuing the former laws, made on that head, to the end of the next ſeſſion of parliament, which paſſed, and received the royal aſſent. On the 8th of February, Mr. Fox, ſecretary at war, and Mr. Hume, were ordered to bring in a bill for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion of officers and ſoldiers in the ſervice of the company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt-Indies, or at the Iſland of St. Helena. This bill, which was confeſſedly of a very unuſual nature, could only be juſtified by the neceſſity of it, and it met with a very ſtrong oppoſition. All the members, who were in and about town, were ordered to attend the ſecond reading of it; and it was alſo ordered, that all charters, commiſſions, and authorities, by which any powers, relative to a military juriſdiction, or to the exerciſe of martial law, had been granted, or derived from the crown, to the ſaid company, ſhould be by them laid before the houſe. Accordingly,

Debates upon extending the mutiny act to the Eaſt-Indies.

Geo. II. 1754. they were all laid before the houſe on the 18th, and on Tueſday the 19th, the bill was read a ſecond time, and a motion made for its being committed, which, after long debate, was carried in the affirmative, by a majority of 245 againſt 50. Another debate happened, upon a motion made by Mr. Nugent, to render the bill temporary, but that likewiſe paſſed in the negative, and the neceſſity for paſſing the bill was ſo great, that it was ſent to the houſe of lords, on the 25th of February, where it met with no amendments, and on the 5th of March, it received the royal aſſent.

Motion for abolishing oaths.

On the 7th of February, a very extraordinary motion was made in the houſe of commons by ſir John Barnard, which was for leave to bring in a bill, to repeal ſo much of an act, entitled, "An act for the more effectual preventing bribery and corruption, in the election of members to ſerve in parliament," as requiring the electors of members to ſerve in parliament to take the oaths therein mentioned, if demanded, before they were admitted to poll. The reaſon ſir John gave for his motion, was, that experience proved, that thoſe oaths were of no manner of ſignificancy, for the purpoſes they were intended to ſerve, and that they only opened a door for perjury. Though the houſe did not at all appear to diſlike this motion, and though they all ſeemed to admit the truth of ſir John's obſervation, yet Mr. Pelham thought it was too dangerous an experiment to make all at once; and after ſome debate, in which the motion was enforced by a great many of the heads of the court-party, it was dropt.

Caſe of Mr. [illegible]

Amongſt the other vices, in which the people of England were plunged at this time, an univerſal ſpirit of gaming, which had ſeized all ranks and degrees of people, was not the leaſt. Mr. Pelham had often declared himſelf, on that account, to be an avowed enemy to lotteries, but in caſes of abſolute neceſſity. In the act for the lottery for purchaſing ſir Hans Sloane's curioſities, the legiſlature had been at unuſual pains to guard againſt the pernicious conſequences of one perſon engroſſing a great number of tickets, by which he was able to put what price he pleaſed upon them, to the great detriment of the publick, through their inſatiable paſſion for gaming. A proviſion, therefore, was inſerted in that act, that no perſon ſhould be allowed to contribute towards the lottery for more than twenty tickets. Another proviſion was likewiſe inſerted, for keeping the ſubſcription open to the 26th of October from the 14th of June, that foreigners might have an opportunity of purchaſing tickets. Notwithſtanding all theſe precautions, the ſubſcription was declared

to

to be full in a few hours after it was opened, and the riſe of the tickets, above the true value, was as high as ever. The notoriety of all this was ſuch, that Mr. Cooke complained of it in the houſe of commons, and moved that the book, entitled, "An account of the contributors to the lottery, directed by an act of the laſt ſeſſion of parliament, be referred to the conſideration of a committee." Though this motion met with ſome oppoſition from ſir William Yonge and others, yet it was carried in the affirmative without a diviſion, and a committee was appointed to examine the book, and with power to ſend for perſons, papers, and records. During this examination, it appeared that Mr. L—, one of the receivers of the contributions to the ſaid lottery, had not, as ſuch, conformed himſelf ſtrictly to the terms required by the act of parliament, and amongſt other contraventions of it, that he had ſold to one perſon, under names, which he knew to be fictitious, between two and three hundred tickets. Upon this, the committee came to no fewer than eighteen reſolutions againſt Mr. L—, and voted him guilty of a direct violation of the lottery-act, and a breach of truſt, and that an humble addreſs be preſented to his majeſty, that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to direct his attorney-general to proſecute in the moſt effectual manner the ſaid Mr. L— for his ſaid offences. In conſequence of thoſe reſolutions, they ordered firſt, That the ſaid addreſs be preſented to his majeſty by ſuch members of this houſe, as are of his majeſty's moſt honourable privy-council. Secondly, That the ſaid reſolutions be humbly laid before his majeſty at the ſame time with the addreſs. The event of all was, that Mr. L— being proſecuted by the attorney-general in the court of king's-bench, was fined 1000l. which he immediately paid.

Geo. II. 1754.

He is fined.

On the 6th of April, his majeſty put an end to the ſeſſion, and to the parliament, by a ſpeech; from which many concluded, that the tranquillity of the public was upon the brink of being interrupted. The truth is, the repreſentations which had lately come from America againſt the proceedings of the French, together with the ſhuffling conduct of the French court, made it eaſily to be foreſeen, that the nation was upon the eve of a war. His majeſty, in his ſpeech, at the cloſe of the parliament, acquainted them, that he ſhould ſay nothing at preſent of foreign affairs, but that it was his fixed reſolution to do every thing in his power to maintain the general tranquillity, and to adhere to ſuch meaſures for that purpoſe, as he had hitherto purſued, in conjunction with his allies. He then took leave of the parliament in the following

King's ſpeech at the end of the parliament.

Geo. II. 1754. lowing remarkable words. "Gentlemen of the houſe of commons, I return you my hearty thanks, for the ſupplies you have ſo chearfully granted, and which are the more acceptable to me, as they have brought no new burthen upon my good ſubjects. My lords and gentlemen, the time draws near, when the preſent parliament muſt determine by law; and it is my intention very ſpeedily to call a new one. But it would be unjuſt to this to give it no public teſtimony of my approbation, the many eminent proofs you have given of your affection and duty to my perſon and government, of your zeal for this excellent conſtitution, and for the ſecurity of the preſent eſtabliſhment, can never be forgotten by me. By your vigorous aſſiſtance, under the divine providence, I was enabled to put an end to an expenſive, though neceſſary war, by an honourable peace, which you have greatly contributed to preſerve, by readily and uniformly ſupporting my meaſures. You have gone farther; and while the difficulties ariſing from the war were ſcarce over, ſeized the very firſt opportunity to perfect one of the greateſt works of peace, by concurring in the moſt proper means, for a gradual decreaſe of the national debt; and at the ſame time, raiſing the public credit. You have alſo, by ſeveral new laws, laid a foundation to ſtrengthen and advance the commerce of my kingdoms; ſuch a ſeries of wiſe and ſteady conduct cannot fail to recommend you to the good-will and eſteem of your fellow-ſubjects, as well as mine. For my own part, I ſecurely rely upon the loyalty and good affection of my people; and have no other aim but their laſting happineſs." Soon after this, a proclamation was iſſued to diſſolve the parliament, and writs were ordered to be iſſued out by the lord chancellor, bearing date the 9th of April, and made returnable the 31ſt of May; at the ſame time the convocations of Canterbury and York were ordered to be diſſolved, and writs to be iſſued for electing new members, returnable the 5th of June.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

Death and character of Mr. Pelham—State of parties in Ireland—French encroachments in America—Defeat of colonel Waſhington—The Engliſh miniſtry ſettled—Affairs between the Engliſh and French in the Eaſt-Indies—French parliament baniſhed—Farther ſtate of affairs in America—An Ohio company projected—Encroachments of the French in Nova Scotia—Their neutrals are defeated—The formidable deſigns and power of the French in America—Their advantages, and the diſadvantages and diviſions of the Engliſh—The Britiſh miniſtry ſettled—The firſt ſeſſion of the new parliament—The affairs of the city of London—Prince of Heſſe turns papiſt—State of affairs between England and Spain—and Portugal—Diſtractions of the Engliſh in America—Second ſeſſion of parliament—Supplies—A lottery—Elections—Bills paſſed—Meſſage from the king—Operations by ſea and land in America—King goes abroad—Succeſs of Monckton in Nova Scotia—Defeat, death and character of general Bradock—The Alcide and Lys taken by Boſcawen——French captures—Johnſon's victory over the French in America—Conduct and character of the marquis of Hartington—Addreſs of the convocation—Affairs of the continent—The king returns to England—Treaties with Ruſſia and Heſſe—King's ſpeech at the opening of the ſeſſion of parliament—Alterations in the miniſtry—French attack Minorca—Byng fails to relieve it—Treaty between Great Britain and Pruſſia—Reuilie and Fox's letters—Yorke's memorial to the ſtates-general—French memorials—Neutrality of the Dutch.

IN the beginning of March, this year, died Mr. Pelham, who, for ſome years paſt, had been conſidered as the firſt miniſter of his Britannic majeſty. Great Britain, perhaps, never enjoyed ſuch a ſtate of political tranquillity, as it did while he was conſidered in that capacity; and, perhaps, he is the only inſtance upon record, of a miniſter who made great virtues ſerve in the place of great abilities. His native

Geo. II. 1754.

Death and character of Mr. Pelham.

Geo. II. 1754. candour, instead of being (as is generally the case) effaced, was improved, by the many departments of business, through which he arose; and his being void of art, conciliated to him more friends than the most artful man ever gained. His apprehension, if not ready, was tenacious; and then it converted itself into resolution, in which he was immoveable, though it was some time before it was fixed. His understanding was rather clear than bright, so that he seldom was deceived by the false glare of the medium, through which he perceived objects. He came early into life, and was a captain of dragoons in the action against the rebels in 1715, at Preston, and to the last he retained that openness of behaviour and conversation that is so peculiar to men of merit in that profession. Few private gentlemen were ever known to unite so much dignity and ease in their behaviour, as he did; and he retained a complacency of manners towards those with whom he differed, which even to them appeared to be so void of affectation, that he seldom failed to win them over. His long experience in business, undoubtedly contributed greatly to his success; but he had about him a certain unreserve, which, from being captivating, when he was known, became irresistable even by his greatest foes. His disinterestedness was seen in the state of his private affairs, which, considering his natural frugality, the many great posts he had held, and the vast opportunities he had of making money, were but very indifferent at the time of his death. He was naturally grave; and no man was ever more, than he was, what he appeared to be. The share of learning he had, was rather useful than curious, but his general notions, both of men and things, were sound and judicious; and, once they were formed, they were unalterable. His great principle in government was to avoid party of every kind, but he thought that till the revolution took place, the constitution was unsettled, and liberty very precarious. Though both his maxims and his principles were very different from those of sir Robert Walpole, yet he preserved so wonderful a decorum towards his character and memory, that he often declined to have his own measures vindicated, because they could not be so without impeaching sir Robert's conduct. Nothing remains to be added to the character of this valuable man, but that it was such, as was formed, for the happiness of Great *Britain*, without hurting her honour.

State of parties in Ireland.

The government of England, about the time of Mr. Pelham's death, met with great disquietudes from Ireland. The Irish, under mild administrations, had improved in arts, manufac-

nufactures, and all the ſocial advantages of life. But in proportion as they improved, they ſeemed to forget their dependency upon England, and the conſtitutional ties they were under. The Britiſh government ſcarcely ſuffered them to feel any inequality between their own conſtitution and that of Great Britain, which brought them into a belief, that Ireland was totally independent of England. While the earl of Cheſterfield was lord lieutenant, their diſcontents were ſmothered; and during the time of the rebellion in Great Britain, they gave ſignal inſtances of their duty and affection to his majeſty. The manners of the earl of Harrington, who was their next lord lieutenant, were not ſo agreeable to their genius, and he was far from being popular: but under the duke of Dorſet, who ſucceeded him, they unmaſked the deſigns they had long privately harboured. Through the indulgence of England, and the penalties impoſed upon abſentees, a ballance of almoſt 205,000l. had been ſaved in their treaſury, part of which their attorney general, who there acts as chancellor of the Exchequer, moved ſhould be applied towards diſcharging the national debt. A bill accordingly was brought in for paying off 120,000l. but this bill made no mention in the preamble of it of "his majeſty's previous conſent," which had always, or generally, been neceſſary to the paſſing of Iriſh money bills, and was almoſt the only mark of dependency which the Iriſh had upon the Engliſh government; excepting that of having their acts reviſable by the Britiſh council before they could paſs into laws. When the act, therefore, came to be conſidered at the council-board in England, "his majeſty's previous conſent" was added to the preamble, and the bill being ſent back to Ireland, paſſed with that addition. In the year 1753, there was a further ballance of 130,000l. over what was ſufficient to pay the whole remainder of the national debt; and there being a fixed intention to pay it off, the duties appropriated for the intereſt, were ſuffered to determine from Chriſtmas 1753. But when the bill for paying off the debt paſſed, no mention was made of "his majeſty's previous conſent;" and it was returned from England with thoſe words inſerted in it, and with a letter to the lord lieutenant, ſigned by eighteen Britiſh councellors, intimating, that his majeſty could not diſpenſe with that expreſſion, becauſe it was neceſſary for the ſupport of his prerogative.

Geo. II. 1754.

Notwithſtanding this mark of attention to the Iriſh parliament, they proceeded ſo far in their notions of independency upon England, that they rejected the bill, by a majority

of

Geo. II. 1754. of 122 againſt 117. Thus the queſtion came to be national; and what is ſtill more extraordinary, almoſt all his majeſty's ſervants in that kingdom, who were natives of it, joined in the oppoſition. The people were heated to enthuſiaſm by the behaviour of their repreſentatives; and their ſpeaker of the houſe of commons, Mr. Boyle, was little leſs than deified for his oppoſition to the lord lieutenant. The public creditors, however, were in a woeful condition, the bill for paying them being loſt, and the funds for the intereſt being cancelled. By the prudence of the lord lieutenant, matters were at laſt rendered eaſy; for his majeſty's letter, at a time when nothing leſs than a civil war was expected, was ſent for paying off 77,500l. of the public debt. This encreaſed the circulation of the coin in that kingdom, and put the middling rank into better humour. The ſpeaker of the houſe of commons was made an earl, and public tranquillity, which ſeemed to be baniſhed, was again reſtored.

French encroachments in America.

While the Engliſh government was thus perplexed with the affairs of Ireland, they were much more ſo with the French encroachments in America. They had been inceſſantly making ſettlements upon the Engliſh property ſince the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, and at laſt they made a ſettlement on the weſtern part of Virginia, upon the river Ohio. Mr. Dinwiddie having intelligence of this, ſent an officer, major Waſhington, with a letter to the French commandant there, requiring him to deſiſt, and with orders, if poſſible, to bring the Indians over to the Engliſh intereſt. Waſhington had but indifferent ſucceſs with the Indians, and when he arrived with ſome of the Indian chiefs at the French ſettlements, he found the French by no means inclined to give over their undertaking, and that the Indians, notwithſtanding all their fair promiſes, were much more in their intereſt than in that of England. Upon farther enquiry it was found, that the Indians called the ſix nations, who, by the treaty of Utrecht, were acknowledged to be ſubject to Great Britain, had been entirely debauched by the French, who had likewiſe found means to bring over to their intereſt the natives of thoſe vaſt tracts that lie along the great lakes and rivers to the weſt of the Apalachian mountains. Having thus got the friendſhip of thoſe Indians, they next contrived how to cut them off from all communication with the Engliſh, and for that purpoſe they ſeized the perſons and effects of all the Engliſh whom they found trading with thoſe Indians; and they erected a chain of forts from Canada to Miſſiſſipi, to prevent all future communication between the Engliſh and thoſe Indians;

at the ſame time deſtroying ſuch of the Indians as diſcovered any affection or regard for the Britiſh ſubjects. Not contented with that, by means of their miſſionaries and preſents to the Indian chiefs, they had always in readineſs a large body of the natives to act hoſtily, or, to uſe their phraſe, to take up the hatchet againſt the Engliſh; ſo that in a very few years, all the eaſtern, as well as the weſtern, colonies of Great Britain, were in danger of being ruined. Geo. II. 1754.

When the government of England complained to the French court of thoſe encroachments, their miniſtry gave evaſive anſwers, and promiſed that every thing ſhould be amicably adjuſted; but without deſiſting from their uſurpations, which became every day more and more intolerable. The Engliſh miniſtry perceiving this, ſent general orders to all their governors in America, to repel force by force, and to drive them from all their ſettlements, which they had made contrary to the faith of treaties, and eſpecially along the Ohio. But this was found to be a matter of more difficulty than was imagined; for though the ſeveral provinces belonging to Great Britain, in the neighbourhood of the French encroachments, raiſed both men and money againſt them, yet the forms of their legal proceedings in their aſſemblies were ſo dilatory, that the French always had the ſtart of them; and they ſurprized a place called Log's town, belonging to the Virginians, upon the Ohio. This was a place of great importance, and the French made themſelves maſters of the block-houſe and the truck-houſe, with ſkins and other commodities, to the amount of 20,000l. beſides cutting off all the Engliſh traders in thoſe parts but two, who found means to eſcape. About the ſame time, near 1000 French, under the command of monſieur de Contrecœur, and 18 pieces of cannon, came in 300 canoes from Venango, a fort that they had uſurped upon the banks of the Ohio, and ſurprized an Engliſh fort on the forks of Monongahalla. After this, a great many ſkirmiſhes happened between the Engliſh and and the French, with various ſucceſs. In the mean while, orders came from England to the governors of the Britiſh ſettlements in America, to form a kind of a political confederacy, to which every province was to contribute a quota; and the governor of New York was directed to hold an interview with the chiefs of the ſix nations, and to endeavour to bring them off from the French intereſt, his majeſty having ordered a conſiderable ſum of money to be laid out in preſents for that purpoſe. Though this ſcheme of a political union was the beſt meaſure that could be purſued in the then ſituation

Meaſures of the Engliſh miniſtry there.

Geo. II. 1754. ſituation of the Britiſh ſettlements, yet it had not all the effect that was expected from it. The congreſs between the governor of New York and the Indian chiefs of the ſix nations, which was held at Albany, was but thin of Indians; and though all the Britiſh ſettlements had commiſſioners there, yet the meeting made little impreſſion upon the ſavages. They were perſwaded, however, to renew their treaties with the Engliſh, and by force of preſents, they were brought to deſire the aſſiſtance of the Engliſh in driving the French from their uſurpations.

Defeat of colonel Waſhington by the French.

Colonel Waſhington accordingly, with 400 men under his command, took poſt upon the banks of the Ohio, in expectation of being joined by about 500 more from New York; and in the mean time it appears, that he had thrown up ſome works, which formed a kind of a fort, which he called fort Neceſſity, to defend himſelf againſt the French, who he underſtood were marching, to the number of 900, to diſlodge him, before he could receive his reinforcement. Previous to this, De Viller, the French general, ſent one Jamonville at the head of a ſmall party, with a formal ſummons for Waſhington to quit the fort, under pretence that it was built upon ground belonging to the French or their allies. This party, however, being guilty of ſome hoſtilities, was cut off, or made priſoners by the Engliſh. Upon this, Waſhington was attacked by De Viller, and after ſuffering a conſiderable loſs of men, was obliged to capitulate and deliver up the fort and all the French priſoners they had made, and to retire to the Engliſh ſettlements, leaving two officers hoſtages for the due performance of the capitulation. Though Waſhington and the Virginians publiſhed a pompous, but a very falſe, account of this action, yet it is certain it had a very bad effect upon the Engliſh intereſt in America. Though by the articles of capitulation the French commandant had engaged to do all he could to prevent the Engliſh from being inſulted by the ſavages, yet the latter, whoſe ideas of other people are always found to be according to their power, attacked the Engliſh in their retreat, killing ſome, and wounding others.

The place from which Waſhington had been driven, was unqueſtionably within the Engliſh territory; and when the true ſtate of the affair came to be known at London, his majeſty inſtructed the earl of Albemarle to repreſent it at the court of France, as a formal breach of the peace. The Engliſh miniſtry, however, at this time, was far from being united. The death of Mr. Pelham, had produced great alterations;

tions; and it was ſome time before a new miniſtry could be formed. It was eaſy to foreſee, from what had happened in America, and from the ſpirit both of the parliament and the people, that the nation was upon the eve of a war with France, and the general elections that were approaching, rendered the conjuncture very tickliſh. Geo. II. 1754.

The Engliſh miniſtry ſettled at home.

Mr. Pelham, before his death, had ſettled, as far as circumſtances would permit, the plan of the new parliament, and had communicated the ſame to his majeſty, who had approved of it. A reſolution was therefore taken, to admit of as few deviations as poſſible from the plan, and to continue matters in the ſame channel they were in when Mr. Pelham died. For this purpoſe, his brother, the duke of Newcaſtle, as being beſt acquainted with his views, was prevailed upon to reſign the ſeals of ſecretary of ſtate, which he had for many years held with uncorrupted fidelity to his royal maſter, and to accept of the poſt of firſt lord commiſſioner of the treaſury. The place of chancellor of the Exchequer was, as uſual, given to the lord chief juſtice of the King's Bench, till a proper perſon could be found to fill it; and ſir Thomas Robinſon, who had been long ambaſſador at the court of Vienna, and was ſuppoſed to be well acquainted with foreign affairs, was thought to be the moſt unexceptionable perſon to ſucceed as ſecretary of ſtate, the earl of Holderneſs being the other ſecretary.

Hiſtory of the Engliſh affairs in the Eaſt-Indies.

The reader has already ſeen the meaſures taken by the parliament, to enforce military diſcipline amongſt the Engliſh ſoldiers in the Eaſt-Indies; and this makes it now neceſſary to review the ſtate of affairs in thoſe parts. So far back as July 1752, the preſident and council of Fort St. George thought proper to ſend for a reinforcement to Bengal, in order to oppoſe an Indian prince who was called the Chunda Saib, and who being in the intereſt of the French, was preparing to invade the Engliſh diſtricts. To give the reader a clear comprehenſion of the neceſſity of this meaſure, it is neceſſary to inform him, that the great Mogul is ſovereign of what is called, in Great Britain, the Eaſt-Indies, though in fact, he can be conſidered as no more than ground landlord. The country is parcelled out in provinces, cities, diſtricts, and ſuch like governments, and each particular portion is under a kind of a petty prince called a Nabob, who pays yearly a tribute to the great Mogul, but acts, in all other reſpects, as an independent prince. For though they all own the Mogul as ſovereign, yet, without receiving any orders or inſtructions from him, they often carry on war againſt each other with

Geo. II. 1754. with the greateſt rancour and cruelty. This is of great uſe to the Europeans, it being commonly in their power to caſt the ballance as they pleaſe; and when France and England is at war, each nation has their ſet of Nabobs to befriend them.

One of thoſe Nabobs, called Annaverda Cawn, being obſerved by Dupleix, the French governor of Pondicherry, to be in the Engliſh intereſt, Dupleix formed a ſcheme to depoſe him, and with this view, he entered into an alliance with Muzephur Jing and Chuenda Saib, and they being joined by a detachment of French from Pondicherry, marched againſt Annaverda, and came up with him on the plains of Arcot. As Annaverda had with him no Europeans, his army was routed, and he himſelf was killed; but his ſon Mahomed Alley Cawn made his eſcape, and took ſhelter in Trichenopoly, a ſtrong place, and there received ſome ſuccours from the Engliſh. Mahomed Alley Cawn was now conſidered as nabob of Arcot, and the French with their allies prepared to beſiege him, when they were attacked by Nazir Jing, nabob of Golconda, who was in the intereſt of the Engliſh, and obliged to retire under the walls of Pondicherry. This brought on a general engagement, in which the Engliſh, and the nabobs in their intereſt, obtained a compleat victory; and Muzephur Jing was obliged to ſurrender himſelf to his uncle Nazir Jing. Some miſunderſtanding, however, happening between Mahomed, Nazir Jing, and the Engliſh; the French and their allies attacked and defeated Mahomed, who was obliged to fly to Nazir Jing. The latter having his army ſtill on foot, attacked the French in their turn, and obliged them to retreat to Gingey, a ſtrong fortreſs about twenty miles from Pondicherry, where they were beſieged by Nazir Jing. During this ſiege, or rather blockade, the French were reduced to the greateſt diſtreſs, when they found means to form a conſpiracy againſt Nazir Jing, in which he loſt his life, and Muzephur, his nephew, was, by Dupleix, made nabob of Golconda in his room. In the mean while, Mahomed Alley finding he could not ſupport himſelf without the Engliſh, threw himſelf upon their protection; but the new nabob of Golconda made Chuenda Saib, nabob of Arcot, and he beſieged Mahomed in Trichenopoly; but having concluded a treaty with the Engliſh, he received from them a reinforcement of about 400 men, with whom he attacked Chuenda Saib; but the Engliſh, who were commanded by one captain Gingen, were defeated, and both they and Mahomed took ſhelter under the walls of Trichenopoly.

The

The affairs of the Engliſh after this defeat, which happened in March 1751, wore a very bad aſpect, when they were retrieved by the valour and good conduct of Mr. Clive. He was the ſon of an attorney in London, and had gone out as a clerk or writer in the Eaſt India company's ſervice. The Engliſh at St. David's finding their army in a manner blocked up at Trichenopoly, projected a diverſion by invading Arcot; and Mr. Clive having offered his ſervice as a volunteer, he embarked on the 22d of Auguſt for Fort St. George, at the head of 130 men, and was there joined by about 80 more. With this inconſiderable force, he marched acroſs the country, and had the good fortune not only to make himſelf maſter of Arcot, but by his humanity and the diſcipline he obſerved, as well as by his great valour, he obtained the reſpect and love of all the natives. While he was at Arcot, Chuenda Saib detached his ſon with a ſtrong body of forces from Trichenopoly to retake Arcot. This left the Engliſh at Trichenopoly at liberty to march to the aſſiſtance of Clive, who ſhut himſelf up in the caſtle of Arcot, and repulſed with great ſlaughter the enemy in all their attacks. The Engliſh under captain Kilpatrick, with about 2000 Morattas, coming to the relief of Arcot, the enemy retired from the ſiege with great precipitation, leaving behind them their cannon and great part of their baggage. Upon this, captain Clive, leaving Kilpatrick with a ſufficient garriſon in Arcot, marched againſt the enemy, and coming up with them on the plains of Arnni, gave them a total defeat on the 3d of December. He then reduced ſome of their forts in the country, and leaving Engliſh garriſons in them, he returned to St. Davids.

Geo. II. 1754.

The Engliſh victorious under Mr. Clive,

But by this time the French and Chuenda Saib had aſſembled a new army, and were plundering the friends of the Engliſh in the neighbourhood of Madraſs. Mr. Clive had behaved ſo well in the laſt expedition, that he was again employed on this occaſion, and taking the field at the head of the Engliſh forces, he came up with the enemy at Covercepante, where he gave them another entire defeat about 15 miles from Arcot, which place they intended to have ſurprized. In this engagement, many of the enemy's European officers and ſoldiers were killed or taken, as were almoſt all their artillery and baggage. The province of Arcot being thus cleared of the enemy, captain Clive, with his forces, returned to St. Davids, to which place major Lawrence was come from England, and took upon him the command of the troops. On the 18th of March, he and captain Clive marched once more out in queſt of the enemy, and having joined captain Gingen

who gives the French repeated defeats.

Geo. II. 1754. Gingen at Trichenopoly, captain Clive was diſpatched with 400 Engliſh, ſome Moratta horſe, and a kind of militia of the country called Seapoys, to cut off the enemy's retreat to Pondicherry. In this expedition he was ſo fortunate as to take, by ſtorm, two forts of great conſequence, garriſoned by the enemy, and to make priſoners 138 French, beſides many that were killed and drowned. After this, he attacked another party of the French at their camp at Yelconda, or Valconda, and after making great ſlaughter of them, he drove them into the fort, where he obliged them to ſurrender priſoners of war on the 11th of June 1752.

The reader is to be informed, that the chief view of the Engliſh, all this time, was to ſupport the pretenſions of Mahomed, the lawful nabob of Arcot, againſt the uſurper who had been ſet up by the French, and Chuenda Saib, who lay with an army of about 30,000 men at a place they called Syrrinham, an iſland in the neighbourhood of Trichenopoly, which they had in vain endeavoured to ſeize. The Engliſh troops and their allies under major Lawrence, marched towards this iſland, and took their meaſures ſo well, that they cut off all the enemies proviſions; and Chuenda Saib, after being obliged to fly, was taken priſoner by the nabob of Tanjore, an ally of the Engliſh. Some diſputes, however, happening amongſt his captors about the cuſtody of him, the nabob, to finiſh them, ordered his head to be ſtruck off on the ſpot. In the mean while, the main body of the enemy was attacked by major Lawrence, who gave them a total defeat, and took the iſle of Syrringham on the 14th of June. On this occaſion, about 1000 European French ſoldiers were made priſoners, and about 30 of their officers, 40 pieces of canon, and 10 mortars. This defeat proved a ſevere blow to the French, and the more ſo, as the Engliſh, during the whole expedition, did not loſe above 50 men. Several other actions happening greatly to the diſadvantage of the French and their allies, M. Dupleix, and the officers under him, recalled all their regulars from the Indian army, and acted upon the defenſive. The French company at Paris being informed of their bad ſucceſs in the Eaſt Indies, in November 1753, ſent over one Duvelar as their commiſſary, and concluded a convention with the Engliſh Eaſt-India company, for reſtoring peace in the Eaſt-Indies. By that convention, the two companies were reciprocally to reſtore the territories taken by the troops of either ſince the year 1748, except certain diſtricts which the Engliſh detained for the conveniency of their trade. They agreed farther, not to interfere

Convention between the Engliſh and French Eaſt-India companies.

fere in the differences amongſt the princes of the country, and that the nabobs raiſed by the influence of either party, ſhould be acknowledged by both. Geo. II. 1754.

History of the French parliament.

The external tranquillity of France was no ſooner reſtored by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, than its internal tranquillity was interrupted by the diſputes which began to rage more fiercely than ever, between the parliament and the eccleſiaſtics, rather enthuſiaſtics, in both church and ſtate. The parliament, under pretence of ſupporting the king's authority, aimed, in fact, at curtailing it. They proceeded with the utmoſt rigour againſt all prieſts who refuſed to adminiſter the ſacraments without certain certificates, to prove the compliance of the parties with the bull Unigenitus and a ſet of fantaſtical and unintelligible principles. They had even the boldneſs to fine the biſhop of Orleans for one of thoſe refuſals, and to admoniſh the archbiſhop of Paris, under the pain of loſing all his temporalities, to order the ſacraments to be adminiſtred without ſuch certificates; and upon the archbiſhop's neglecting this admonition, they ordered his temporalities to be actually ſeized. The French king diſapproved of this conduct, but the princes of the blood and the peers, ſeemed inclined to take the part of the parliament. It is foreign to this hiſtory to enter into a minute detail of the ſeveral ſteps taken on both ſides, to ſupport their reſpective authority. It is ſufficient to ſay, that the French parliament acted with a ſpirit that would have done honour to a Britiſh one. They refuſed to regiſter the king's arbitrary edicts, without which they could not, it ſeems, have the force of a law; and amongſt other vigorous reſolutions they came to, one was: That the forms claimed by them were laws of the realm, and that on their obſervation depended the maintainance of the royal authority and the public tranquillity, and that they knew no middle perſon between the king and them, and that they neither could, nor ought, to addreſs themſelves to any but the ſovereign alone. At the ſame time, they ſummoned the peers to come and take their ſeats in parliament, which, they were required by the king, upon their allegiance, not to do. This prohibition blew the flame higher than ever, and the parliament preſented to their king a remonſtrance, which the eccleſiaſtics and the aſſerters of the royal authority, looked upon to be treaſonable. But this was not all; for they came to a reſolution, in direct contradiction to their king's orders, to proceed to no buſineſs till they had juſtice done them; becauſe certain evil-minded perſons hindered truth from getting near the throne. They ſtuck by

Geo II. 1754. this reſolution, even though their king commanded them, under pain of his diſpleaſure, to continue their functions. Upon this, letters de cachet were iſſued, and the members of all the chambers of parliament (excepting the great chamber) were baniſhed to ſeveral places of the kingdom, remote from one another. But the gentlemen of the great chamber took the exception in their favour moſt grievouſly amiſs, and perſiſted ſo ſtrenuouſly in their oppoſition to the court and the eccleſiaſtics, that they likewiſe obtained the favour they ſo ardently wiſhed for, of being baniſhed by the like letters. They conſidered their exile as a triumph, and they were attended to the place of their baniſhment not only by great numbers of the commonality, but by ſome peers and princes of the blood; and even though baniſhed, they continued their proceedings againſt thoſe eccleſiaſtics who refuſed the ſacraments, and their example was followed by all the other parliaments in the kingdom.

It is baniſh'd.

This behaviour of the French parliaments, particularly that of Paris, which is conſidered as the principal, created a total ſtop to the adminiſtration of juſtice throughout that kingdom; and the court was driven to the bold, but ineffectual, expedient of eſtabliſhing, in its room, a new court of juſtice, called the Royal Chamber. But all the power of the French monarch, could not give this chamber the authority of a parliament. Even the inferior tribunals of the kingdom refuſed to acknowledge their juriſdiction, and ſome members of them were ſent to priſon on that account. The French king had ſenſe enough to foreſee the conſequences of all this violent proceeding, but he had not reſolution enough to prevent them. Impreſt on the one ſide with high notions of his own deſpotic power, and beſieged on the other hand by bigots and eccleſiaſtics, who had fettered his conſcience in the bonds of religious fears, he could not bring himſelf to a thorough compliance with the deſires of his parliament and people, till he ſaw himſelf threatened both with a civil and a foreign war, and in this ſituation were the affairs of France in the ſummer of 1754.

The relation of this difference between the French king and his parliament, is of importance to the Engliſh hiſtory at this period, becauſe they undoubtedly retarded the execution of the pernicious projects they had formed againſt the Engliſh ſettlements in America. Every day more and more convinced the miniſtry, and the people of England, of the great importance of their American ſettlements. They had intelligence of the reinforcements and proviſions of all kinds,

kinds, which France continued daily to ſend to her American colonies, and which demanded the like attention for thoſe of Great Britain. They accordingly ſent, the beginning of this year, a large ſupply of ordnance ſtore for the defence of Caſtle William, a fortreſs which was the bulwark of the province of New England. At the ſame time, freſh orders were ſent to all the Britiſh governors in America, that if the French ſhould attempt to erect forts, or make ſettlements upon any of the lands belonging to Great Britain, they ſhould interrupt them, and repel force by force. When Mr. Shirley, the governor of New England, called together the aſſembly of that province, he informed them, that he had received a letter from the earl of Holderneſs, one of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate, acquainting him, "That his majeſty had information given him of the march of a conſiderable number of Indians not in his alliance, ſupported by ſome regular European troops, who deſigned, as it is apprehended, to commit ſome hoſtilities on ſome parts of his majeſty's dominions in America." His lordſhip likewiſe ſignified in the ſame letter, that he ought to be upon his guard to reſiſt any hoſtile attempts that might be made upon the province. Mr. Dinwiddie, deputy governor of Virginia, had the like orders, and the governor of Penſilvania endeavoured all he could to animate the people againſt the common enemy.

Geo. II. 1754.

Stores ſent to New England.

Shirley's ſpeech to that aſſembly.

All thoſe precautions were inſufficient for ſtopping the progreſs of the enemy, which became now more alarming than ever. But in order to underſtand that progreſs, it is neceſſary for the reader to have ſome further deſcription of the countries in diſpute between the French and the Engliſh.

The provinces of Penſilvania and Virginia, were originally held by the Engliſh, by a compact or purchaſe from the natives, who aſſigned for their limits the Allegany mountains, by which they are ſeparated from the plains of the river Ohio, which are amongſt the richeſt and moſt fertile in the world. This river riſes at the back of New York, to the ſouth of the lake Erie, and its plains were inhabited by the Twightwees, who were a kind of intruders upon the old inhabitants, whom they either deſtroyed or expelled the country. The Engliſh governor and people of Virginia, however, ſent agents acroſs the Allegany mountains, who traded with the natives, and brought them to enter into an alliance with Great Britain. Soon after the French made a ſettlement at the mouth of the Miſſiſſipi, and having opened a communication between that and Canada, began to erect forts all along an imaginary line, by which they propoſed to keep a

The diſpute between the French and Engliſh in America farther ſtated and explained.

Geo. II. 1754. communication open between Canada and the Miſſiſſipi, and thereby prevent any traffic between the Engliſh and the natives. The latter, however, were ſo much in the intereſt of the Engliſh, that they invited them to ſettle amongſt them, and continued their traffic with them, which was ſo very advantageous, that as far back as the year 1716, colonel Spotſwood, governor of Virginia, one of the moſt underſtanding governors that ever was ſent from England, formed, with the conſent of the inhabitants, a noble deſign of erecting an Ohio company, to be ſettled upon the lands ceded by the natives acroſs the Allegany mountains. But the near connections between Great Britain and France at that time, the fear of diſobliging the French, and the diſputes that aroſe amongſt the Britiſh colonies, prevented that deſign from taking place. It went, however, ſo far, that, according to the books of the ſecretary's office in Virginia, upwards of 3,000,000 of acres were granted by that colony weſt of the Allegany mountains on the banks of the Ohio, and many ſettlements were made there by the Penſilvanians likewiſe. The French, however, by the neglect of the Engliſh at home, and the diviſions amongſt their colonies in America, were unaccountably ſuffered to build Crown Point, one of their moſt dangerous encroachments in America; but they found themſelves unable to execute the whole of their ſyſtem: for not having commodities enough to ſupply the Twightwees, the latter, of their own accord, about the year 1725, repaired to New York, Albany, and other Engliſh provinces, offering to trade with them, and to renew their antient alliance; both which offers were accepted. It is to be obſerved, that thoſe Twightwees were, perhaps, the moſt powerful Indian nation in North America; and they were ſagacious enough to tell the Engliſh colonies, that numbers amongſt themſelves, for the ſake of gain, furniſhed the French with manufactures, and that the commodities of England built the French forts. This truth was ſo manifeſt, that repreſentations were ſent over to the Engliſh miniſtry, concerning the neceſſity of executing Spotſwood's ſcheme of erecting an Ohio company. This happened about the year 1730; but the thing was not only vigorouſly oppoſed by the French, but by many of the Engliſh planters, through motives of Intereſt. But the neceſſity of it appearing ſtronger every day, the government of England at laſt, in the year 1749, entered into a treaty for a grant of 600,000 acres, ſoutherly of Penſilvania, to Mr. Hanbury, and certain other merchants of London and Virginia, who in the prayer of the petition propoſed

An Ohio company projected.

poſed to ſettle and cultivate the ſame, as well as to carry on a trade with the Indians, under the name of the Ohio company. Geo. II. 1754.

Though this deſign was very ſecretly managed, yet it ſoon came to the knowledge of the French governor of Canada, who was alarmed at it beyond meaſure, and in 1750 wrote to the governors of New York and Penſilvania, acquainting them, that the Engliſh inland traders had encroached upon the French territories by trading with the Indians, and that if they did not deſiſt, he would ſeize them wherever they could be found. Though this meſſage was very peremptory, and though the preſervation of peace between France and England was at that time a very favourite meaſure with the Engliſh miniſtry, yet Mr. Pelham was ſo well convinced of the wiſdom and neceſſity of forming an Ohio company, that the meſſage was diſregarded. One Mr. Giſt was employed to make a ſurvey of the country as far as the falls of the river Ohio. But while Mr. Giſt was proſecuting this ſurvey, the French and their Indians ſeized three Engliſh traders, and ſent them priſoners to a fort they were then erecting upon lake Erie, built upon Engliſh ground, or at leaſt ground belonging to Engliſh Indians. This act of hoſtility, obliged the reſt of the Engliſh traders to take refuge amongſt the Twigtwees, who were ſo exaſperated at what the French had done, that they took up the hatchet, as they call it, and aſſembling to the number of 5 or 600, they ſcowered the woods in ſearch of French traders, and finding three of them, they ſent them priſoners to Penſilvania. This was ſo far from diſcouraging the French, that it only haſtened their building and finiſhing other forts upon lands claimed by the Engliſh. Upon this Mr. Hamilton, who was then governor of Penſilvania, propoſed a ſcheme of erecting truck-houſes, which were to ſerve in a double capacity, both as ſhops and forts, for the ſecurity, as well as the conveniency, of the Engliſh traders. But though this propoſal was approved of, and money even voted for carrying it into execution, yet it was ſecretly oppoſed by the quakers of Penſilvania, and the deſign came to nothing. A reſolution was taken, however, to build an Engliſh fort, which was the ſame wherein, as the reader has already ſeen, Waſhington was defeated and made priſoner by the French, the fort being then incompleat and uncovered.

Inſolent meſſage from a French governor.

Truck-houſes propoſed.

This defeat never could have happened, had it not been for the unaccountable indolence, or ſome worſe principle of the Engliſh Americans, and the amazing arts uſed by the French

Geo. II. 1754. to debauch the natives from their friendſhip with England. So little care was taken to ſecure the friendſhip of the ſix nations, who were the antient hereditary ſubjects and allies of England, that ſome Engliſh traders practiſed upon them the moſt ſhameful abuſes. Sometimes they took in the Indian corn-fields, on which they chiefly ſubſiſted, into their ſurveys; ſometimes they decoy'd the youth from their parents, and often they ſold them rum, adulterated with water, for a pure commodity. Many other frauds and ſhameful abuſes were ſaid to have been committed. But be that as it will, it is certain, that the French miſſionaries did not loſe the ſmalleſt opportunity of improving every circumſtance to the advantage of their own country. They even went ſo far as to give them a notion, that they ought to be independent both of the French and Engliſh; and they cheriſhed this notion ſo much, that one of their princes, called the half king, declared, that he would oppoſe both alike in their attempts to make farther ſettlements, or to erect more forts. Other nations made the like declaration, and both Waſhington and Giſt very imprudently concealed their intention of building a fort from the Indians. For when it came to be built, the French miſſionaries and officers in thoſe parts, made it an argument of the inſincerity of the Engliſh, and of their deſign to enſlave or drive them out of their country. In ſhort, they ſucceeded ſo well in their artifices, that the Indians in general were entirely alienated from the Engliſh intereſt, and either ſtood neutral, or joined the French, and were the principal inſtruments of all the misfortunes that afterwards befel the Engliſh in thoſe parts. The Penſilvanians, who are a people remarkably tenacious of their own intereſt, had been a little doubtful as to the policy of the Engliſh attempt to erect a fort upon lands claimed by the Indians; but being informed by one of their agents, that the Indians had conſented to it, they were ſatisfied, till they perceived the Indians to diſclaim all ſuch conſent, and they found they had been impoſed upon by the agent, who, though he produced the governor's authority for what he had done, was ſeverely fined, and in reſentment opened the deſign of the Ohio company to the Indians, whom he ſpirited up to call the French in to their aſſiſtance.

Indolence of the Engliſh in America with regard to the progreſs of the French.

They diſoblige the Indians.

Engliſh priſoners ſet at liberty.

This ſhameful conduct of the Engliſh in America, was exceſſively aggravated by the miſrepreſentations of the few enemies Mr. Putnam had in the nation, and it is certain, that ſometime before his death, he perceived he had been impoſed upon in ſeveral particulars. The three Engliſh Indian traders,

traders, who had been taken on the Ohio, had been carried Geo. II.
priſoners to Quebec, the capital of Canada, and from thence 1754.
they were ſent to Rochelle in France. About the ſame time, other Engliſhmen were made priſoners upon the ſame account, and the lord Albemarle had poſitive orders from his court to claim them as his maſter's ſubjects, together with the reſtitution of their effects, and that the fort the French had built at Niagara, ſhould be inſtantly razed; and that Jonquiere ſhould not only have orders to deſiſt from all ſuch attempts for the future, but that the ſufferers ſhould be indemnified for all their loſſes and ſufferings, and that the authors of them ſhould be ſignally puniſhed. The firſt part of this demand, ſo far as related to the priſoners, was immediately complied with; the reſt never was; the French court looking upon the demands as being utterly inconſiſtent with their ambitious ſchemes. As this incident laid the great foundation of the hoſtilities that immediately followed, and was moſt vilely repreſented by the factious at home, the reader will find in the notes[a] ſufficient documents to juſtify the conduct of the Britiſh miniſtry at that time. The miniſtry vindicated.

But

[a] Extract of a letter from the earl of Albemarle to the earl of Holderneſs, dated at Paris Feb. 19. [March 1] 1752.

"I muſt acquaint your lordſhip, that in the month of November, I received a letter from three perſons, ſigning themſelves John Patten, Luke Irwin, and Thomas Bourke, repreſenting to me, that they were Engliſhmen, who had been brought to Rochelle, and put into priſon there, from whence they wrote, having been taken by the French ſubjects, who ſeized their effects as they were trading with the Engliſh and other Indians on the Ohio, and carried priſoners to Quebec, from whence they have been ſent over to Rochelle, where they were hardly uſed. Upon this information, I applied to M. St. Conteſt, and gave him a note of it, claiming them as the king's ſubjects, and demanding their liberty, and the reſtitution of their effects that had been unjuſtly taken from them. The three perſons, I find by the paper your lordſhip has ſent me, are of the number of thoſe demanded of the French by Mr. Clinton, and named in M. de la Jonquiere's letter. I have wrote to a merchant at Rochelle, to enquire after them, and to ſupply them with money to make their journey hither, if they are not gone, that I may receive from them all the information neceſſary. On my ſeeing M. St. Conteſt next Tueſday, I will repreſent the caſe to him, in obedience to his majeſty's commands, that la Jonquiere may have poſitive orders to deſiſt from the unjuſtifiable proceedings complained of, to releaſe any of his majeſty's ſubjects he may ſtill detain

Geo. II. 1754.

But ſome of the Penſilvanians and the Virginians had a ſecret enmity at one another, on account of the projected Ohio company, which the Penſilvanians alledged would carry the Indian trade out of their channel. Though thoſe differ-

ta'n in priſon, and to make ample reſtitution of their effects. And I ſhall take care to ſhew him the abſolute neceſſity of ſending inſtructions to their ſeveral governors, not to attempt any ſuch encroachments for the future."

Extract of a letter from the earl of Albemarle to the earl of Holderneſs, Feb. 26, [March 8] 1752.

"I am now to acquaint your lordſhip, that I ſaw Mr. Rouille yeſterday, and that having drawn up a ſcheme of the ſeveral complaints I had received orders to make of la Jonquiere's conduct, I delivered it to him, and told him in general the contents of it, inſiſting on the neceſſity of preſerving the good underſtanding ſubſiſting betwixt his majeſty and the moſt Chriſtian king, of ſending him poſitive orders to all their governors, as might effectually prevent for the future, any ſuch encroachments on his majeſty's territories, and committing ſuch hoſtilities on his majeſty's ſubjects, as had been done in the year. I added to my remonſtrance, that I hoped they would be taken into conſideration ſpeedily, that he might be able to give me an anſwer next week, or as ſoon after as he poſſibly could. This miniſter told me, he would uſe his beſt endeavours for that purpoſe: aſſured me, it was the intention of his court, to prevent any diſputes ariſing, that might tend to alter the preſent correſpondence between the two nations, and that I might depend upon ſuch orders being ſent to their governors accordingly. Of the three men I mentioned to your lordſhip in my letter laſt week, that had been brought priſoners from Canada to Rochelle, whom I ſent for to come to Paris, two of them are arrived, and the third is gone to London. I will take ſuch informations from them, as may be neceſſary for my own inſtruction, to ſupport their receiving ſatisfaction for the injuries that have been done them."

Tranſlation of part of the memorial delivered by lord Albemarle to Mr. Rouille, on the 7th of March 1752.

"As to the fort the French have undertaken to build on the river Niagara, and as to the ſix Engliſhmen who have been taken priſoners, lord Albemarle is ordered by his court to demand, that the moſt expreſs orders be ſent to M. de la Jonquiere to deſiſt from ſuch unjuſt proceedings, and in particular to cauſe the above mentioned to be immediately ſaved, and the French and others in their alliance, who may happen to be there, to retire forthwith; as likewiſe to ſet the ſix Engliſhmen at liberty, and to make them an ample ſatisfaction for the wrongs and loſſes they have ſuffered; and laſtly, the perſons who have committed theſe exceſſes, be puniſhed in ſuch a manner, as may ſerve for an example to thoſe who might venture on any like attempts."

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ences were, perhaps, confined to a few, and thoſe not very considerable traders, yet they had the very worſt effects upon the Engliſh intereſt in America; becauſe each party endeavoured to inſtil jealouſies into the Indians of the other, which gave thoſe barbarians an abhorrence of the whole nation. The prepoſſeſſions they had entertained in favour of the Engliſh preferably to the French, were chiefly founded upon their own conveniency, and the opinion they had that the Engliſh would protect them from the encroachments of the French. But they were now taught to believe, (and there was apparently but too good reaſons for believing) that all the profeſſions the Engliſh had made, were in order to enſlave them; and well knowing that the Engliſh were richer than the French, and conſequently that more was to be got by a war with them, they inſtantly determined to take part with the French, which was the true reaſon of their ſucceſſes in America. Geo. II. 1754. The Indians take part with the French.

The reader has already ſeen the grounds of the diſpute between the Engliſh and the French concerning the limits of Nova Scotia, or Acadia. When that country was ceded to the Engliſh by the treaty of Utrecht, the French, who had been ſettled in the country, owned allegiance to the Engliſh government, but preſerved their religion, their properties, and their liberty to ſo great a degree, that they formed ſtrong connections, and entered into the moſt dangerous conſpiracies againſt the Engliſh, with their neighbours and countrymen of Canada. The Engliſh governors in thoſe parts, were at too great a diſtance to be able to reſtrain them by force, and too indolent to interpoſe their authority ſo effectually as they might have done; ſo that, in proceſs of time, the Acadians looked upon themſelves to be as much ſubjects to France, as ever they had been. The prieſts and miſſionaries were the general agents upon all thoſe occaſions, and the country yielding but little revenue either to the crown or the governors, it was in a manner entirely neglected; and about the year 1746, the Acadians joined openly with the Canadians to put the whole province into the hands of the French. The peace of Aix la-Chapelle, rather retarded than checked thoſe deſigns; for while the conferences were depending at Paris between the commiſſaries of the two crowns, the French entered the peninſula that divides Nova Scotia, drove from thence the Engliſh inhabitants, and built a fort upon Engliſh ground, which they called Beauſejour. Their next attempt was againſt the infant colony of Halifax, which was attacked by the Indians, headed by the French, who Encroachments of the French in Nova Scotia.

Geo. II. 1754. who generally went diſguiſed like the ſavages. They were afraid, indeed, of attacking the town itſelf, but they never failed, if they could, to cut off all the Britiſh ſubjects whom they found ſtragling in the neighbourhood, or to make them priſoners, and ſell them to the French at Louiſburgh for arms and ammunition. When thoſe hoſtilities were complained of, the French governors pretended that they were committed by the independent Indians, over whom they had no power, and that they ranſomed the Engliſh ſubjects from thoſe ſavages out of compaſſion. But when the French priſoners were produced that had been taken amongſt the Indians, the governor of Louiſburgh pretended, they were ſome of the neutral French, as he called them, and that application muſt be made to the governor of Canada, who, by this time, had made a ſtrong fortification of his new poſt upon the peninſula, at the point of Chignecto bay, which, without the leaſt colour of right, he ſaid, belonged to the crown of France. By means of this fort, the Indians having a free communication with the peninſula while the town of Halifax was building, all the Engliſh intereſt there was threatened with ruin, and the French ſubjects of Great Britain appeared in open rebellion. Major Laurence being ſent to reduce them, they burnt their town, and threw themſelves under the protection of La Corne, the French commandant at Beau Sejour. La Corne encouraging them in their rebellion, a body of no fewer than 1500 men was formed to oppoſe major Laurence, if he ſhould attempt to paſs the river, which they pretended to be the boundary between the Engliſh and the French territories; and when Laurence demanded the reaſon of ſuch a procedure, all the anſwer he received from La Corne was, that he was determined to maintain his poſt, and that he had orders for what he did. Laurence found himſelf too weak to make any farther attempt, and peace being at that time concluded with France, the thing happening in September 1750, the Britiſh government was a little tender of acting offenſively againſt the French.

They diſturb the Engliſh ſettlement at Halifax.

The French neutrals defeated.

Self preſervation, however, was neceſſary. For no ſooner was Laurence retired, than the French inhabitants returned, and taking poſſeſſion of the town and country they had abandoned, they renewed their incurſions and inroads to ſuch a degree, that colonel Cornwallis, who was then a kind of proviſional governor of the new ſettlement of Nova Scotia, was obliged again to ſend major Laurence, at the head of 1000 regulars, by ſea to Chignecto, where the rebels had entrenched themſelves to prevent his landing. He, however, landed

landed in another place, forced their intrenchments, and killed a great number of them, the remainder retiring over the river, which the major had orders not to paſs, to put themſelves under the protection of the French, who ſtood ready drawn up to receive them. The major, however, built a fort over againſt that of Beau Sejour, which was of great ſervice to the infant colony of Halifax; but the French American governors, encouraged from Europe to depend upon the effects of negotiating, and the tameneſs of the Britiſh miniſtry, ſtill inſtigated thoſe rebels to commit farther hoſtilities againſt the Engliſh. For in June 1751, they burnt the little town of Dartmouth, lying on the other ſide of Chebucto bay, over againſt Halifax, killing and ſcalping at the ſame time all the Britiſh ſubjects who were ſo unfortunate as to fall into their hands. About the ſame time, the French ſtrengthened the neck of the peninſula, which they had uſurped, with an additional fort, called Bay Verte, and with another fort at the mouth of St. John's river, on the north ſide of the bay of Fundy. Geo. II. 1754. They are defeated a ſecond time.

During thoſe uſurpations one part of America, the French were but too ſucceſsful in other parts. By means of the forts Niagara and Du Queſne, which were now compleated and ſtrongly fortified, they linked together their two diſtant colonies of Canada and Louiſiana, at the mouth of the river Miſſiſſipi, through which there is a water carriage of upwards of 3000 miles, which gave them in their boats and canoes, of which they had great plenty, a ſafe and commodious paſſage from one province to another. They likewiſe erected upon ſome lands which in fact belonged to the crown of Great Britain, or to the Britiſh Indians, namely, Crown Point, Fort La Motte, Chambli, St. John's, Sorel, Montreal, La Galette, Fort Frontenac, Torento, Preſq' Iſle, Sandoſki, Fort Miamis, Great Wiant, Little Wiant, Le Detroit, Miſſilimakinac, Fort St. Joſeph, Le Rocher, Fort Chartres, Haſkaſkies, Cappa, and Albames; beſides Quebec, Lewiſburg, Trois Revieres, New Orleans, and Fort Lewis at Mobile, with ſeveral other ſmaller ones. The building of moſt of thoſe forts had been tamely connived at by the Engliſh, and ſome of them were raiſed before they knew they were begun. Thus they erected pales, which in a manner incloſed an empire more extenſive than that of old Rome, more fertile, and capable of being made as formidable, while the Engliſh, to travel from one place of their colonies to another, were expoſed to the moſt diſmal fatigues in paſſing Formidable power of the French in America.

over

Geo. II. 1754. over barren mountains and uncultivated plains, ſometimes for 500 miles together.

Their advantages. But the great advantage which the French had in chalking out the limits of this extenſive empire, lay in their arbitrary form of government, by which the whole of their ſtrength was exerted with uniformity, ſecreſy, and expedition. Their governors had no difficulty to ſtruggle with, but who amongſt them ſhould moſt ſucceſsfully obey the orders of their court; and their people had no other diſpute, but who ſhould be foremoſt in executing the will of their governors. By this means, and by means of their forts and water communications, the French had always a compacted force, able to act, almoſt in an inſtant, in Canada and Louiſiana. They had 11,000 regular troops, beſides 4000 workmen, who were continually employed in clearing the country, and erecting forts; and their militia, which was equal, ſome ſay preferable, to their regulars, amounted to 25,000 men. This force, it is true, was ſmall, in compariſon of what might have been raiſed upon the Britiſh continent in America, but then it was more ready, and, upon moſt occaſions, acted with more efficacy.

Diſadvantages and diviſions of the Engliſh Americans. The Engliſh intereſt, on the other hand, was united in nothing but their allegiance to the crown of Great Britain, and a great part of that was owing to the diviſions amongſt themſelves. Their colonies being planted at different times, and under different forms of government, by Engliſh, Scotch, Iriſh, Germans, and other European nations, who reſorted thither on account of the civil and religious liberty they enjoyed, differed in their principles and purſuits, though their views all centered in ſelf-intereſt. Each province had different boundaries, and different privileges, which they looked upon to be independent of the crown; and the language of their aſſemblies, eſpecially in New England, Penſilvania, and Virginia, had for ſome time paſt been ſuch, as was inconſiſtent with their dependency on the crown of Britain. It happened, unfortunately, that the governors which the Britiſh miniſtry often ſent thither, were, ſometimes, men of neither probity nor property; and as no people in the world are more quick-ſighted than the Britiſh coloniſts in America, they generally rendered themſelves both deſpiſed and hated in their government, to the very great prejudice of their mother country; and they, on the other hand, repreſented the people to the king and his miniſters, oftentimes in a worſe light than they deſerved. This had induced the Engliſh government to divide the province of New England, the moſt powerful

Diviſion of the government of New England.

erful and extenſive of all upon that continent, into ſeveral governments, to wit, that of Rhode Iſland and Providence plantation, that of Connecticut, that of Maſſachuſets bay, and that of New Hampſhire; as to York county, it continued united to the Maſſachuſets colony. Each of thoſe governments was formed upon a different model from all the others, and this was thought the more proper, becauſe had ſo powerful a province as that of New England been united under a popular and ambitious governor, the conſequences, with regard to their dependency upon Great Britain, might have been very terrible. Geo. II. 1754.

State of religion in America.

The diſſonance, however, of the ſeveral conſtitutions of the Britiſh colonies in America, was not near ſo great as that of their religious principles. Some, if not the chief of them, New England particularly and Penſilvania, had been planted by proteſtant diſſenters, quakers, and other ſectaries, who had fled thither to avoid the perſecuting ſpirit of Laud archbiſhop of Canterbury, and the violent churchmen and papiſts during the reigns of the family of Stewart. Others of them had belonged to popiſh proprietors, and many of the planters were of that religion, while great numbers were of no religion at all; ſo that the retainers to the church of England were, perhaps, upon that continent, fewer in number than the diſſenters and ſectaries. The government of England, eſpecially after the revolution, thought proper to encourage this difference in religion, but at the time now treated of, it had a viſible bad effect upon public affairs; and a certain prelate of the church of England, formed a ſcheme for ſending over ſuffragans to that continent, and actually propoſed the ſame at the council-board in England, where it was diſcountenanced. Such was the ſtate of affairs in America in 1754.

The miniſtry ſettled.

The time of the meeting of the new parliament now drawing near, and the probability of a war with France every day encreaſing, his majeſty, this ſummer, made a large promotion of general officers, and ſettled his miniſtry at home. The duke of Newcaſtle was continued at the head of the treaſury, and the other commiſſioners were, lord Barnard, who was created earl of Darlington, Henry Legge, eſq; the lord Dupplin, and Mr. Nugent. Mr. Legge was made chancellor of the Exchequer; ſir George Littelton, cofferer of the houſehold; the earl of Hilſborough was made controller of the ſame; Mr. George Greenville was made treaſurer of the navy, and Mr. Charles Townſhend a lord of the admiralty, in the room of lord Barrington, who was made maſter

Geo. II. 1754. maſter of the wardrobe; ſir Dudley Rider was made lord chief juſtice of the King's Bench, in the room of ſir William Lee, lately deceaſed; and Mr. Murray ſucceeded him as attorney general, and the lord chancellor was raiſed to the dignity of an earl.

New elections. As to the elections, they went very much in the ſame tract that had been laid out by Mr. Pelham, and his plan was ſtrictly executed, ſo far as the government had intereſt. There was not in all England above 42 places where any oppoſition was made, and but few of thoſe were obſtinate; that of Oxfordſhire being the moſt conſiderable. The other oppoſitions were moſtly amongſt the friends of the government, and few, if any, (excepting that of Oxfordſhire) formed upon party principles; the words of court and country, which uſed to have ſuch terrible effects, having now loſt their influence, even amongſt the loweſt and moſt ignorant of the people.

The firſt ſeſſion of the new parliament. As ſoon as the writs were returned, it was thought proper, on account of ſome clauſes in the regency bill, to call the parliament together, and it was opened on the 31ſt of May, by the duke of Cumberland and other lords, under a commiſſion from his majeſty. Mr. Onſlow was on this occaſion preſented by the commons as their ſpeaker, and approved of; and the lord chancellor made a ſpeech to both houſes, acquainting them by the king's command, "That his majeſty had been pleaſed to give them this early opportunity of coming together, in order that certain parliamentary proceedings may be gone through, which his majeſty judges may be for the ſatisfaction of his good ſubjects, to have compleated without loſs of time. And that his majeſty did not think proper now to lay before them any points of general buſineſs, reſerving every thing of that nature to the uſual time of their aſſembling in the winter." On the 5th of June, an end was put to the ſeſſion by the lords commiſſioners, and the parliament was prorogued to the 8th of Auguſt following.

Caſe of the ſheriffs of London. The quiet of the city of London, this ſummer, was ſomewhat interrupted by a diſpute about the election of ſheriffs. It had, of late years, been cuſtomary to name to that office perſons who, rather than ſerve it, choſe to pay a conſiderable fine to the chamber of London for the benefit of the public works, by which a large ſum had been raiſed. Amongſt others, certain proteſtant diſſenters had been drank to by the lord mayor, which was the antient way of nominating ſheriffs: but great doubts aroſe, whether they were compellable

to

to ſerve. They pleaded in their favour, an act of parliament of the 13th Car. II. cap. 1. whereby it is enacted, "That no perſon or perſons, who ſhould not have, within one year next before the election or choice, taken the ſacrament of the Lord's Supper, according to the rights of the church of England, ſhall for ever, after March 25, 1663, be elected, or choſen to any office or offices of magiſtracy, or places of truſt, or other employment relating to, or concerning the government of any city, corporation, or borough," and thereby expoſe themſelves to the cenſure of the law for uſurping an office to which, by the above act, they could not be elected. Geo. II. 1754.

On the other hand, the city of London thought it highly unreaſonable, that the diſſenters, under the ſanction of the teſt act, which was made for keeping papiſts from exerciſing civil employments, ſhould ſhelter themſelves from being obliged to take upon them offices attended, like that of a ſheriff, with great trouble and expence, but no profit; and this year they determined to know how the law ſtood in that reſpect. Accordingly, on Midſummer-day, the 24th of June, two citizens, proteſtant diſſenters, Mr. Streatfield and Mr. Sheaſe, who had been before drank to by the lord mayor, were elected ſheriffs of London and Middleſex for the enſuing year. Their friends, however, demanded a poll, which was granted, in favour of alderman Fludyer and alderman Beckford. But the diſſenters having the majority, inſtead of paying the fine, inclined to ſtand the judgment of the law upon the clauſe above recited, and refuſed to ſerve. Upon which a common hall was ordered for the choice of other two ſheriffs, which fell upon Mr. Toriano, who accepted of the ſame, and Mr. Evans, a proteſtant diſſenter, who likewiſe chooſing to have the deciſion of law, declined the office, and alderman Fludyer was choſen in his room, and ſerved the office with Mr. Toriano. After this, upon the 26th of September, the court of common council of London, ordered actions to be brought againſt the gentlemen who had refuſed the office, and appointed a committee to conduct the proſecution, which the diſſenters, by their conduct, ſeemed to think would not end in their favour.

While this tranſaction was depending, the city of London was divided upon another, and a very different, queſtion. The viſible advantages which Weſtminſter had gained by its magnificent bridge, induced many of the inhabitants of the weſtern wards of the city of London, to think of building a bridge between Black Friars and the oppoſite ſhore, on the Surry ſide. Caſe of Black Friars bridge.

Geo. II. 1754.

ſide. The arguments for this meaſure were not only plauſible but ſtrong. The dignity of the city of London required, that it ſhould have more than one bridge over the moſt beneficial river in the world; and the examples of Paris, and ſeveral other cities inferior to London, that had many bridges over their rivers, were urged. The old bridge of London was ruinous and incommodious, and not only a great obſtruction to trade, but every day occaſioning ſome diſmal diſaſter to paſſengers and inhabitants. Black Friers and its neighbourhood, tho' ſituated in one of the moſt commodious and conſpicuous parts of London, were noted for filth, poverty, and miſery; and the opening new ſtreets, which a new bridge would introduce, as far, at leaſt, as Weſt-Smithfield, would contribute to the grandeur, conveniency, and riches of the city, and be attended with a decreaſe of the poor's rate, and the increaſe of all kinds of manufactures and manufacturers, as well as the rents of houſes and lands.

Notwithſtanding thoſe, and many other, arguments, a ſtrong oppoſition was made by the inhabitants of the eaſtern wards of London to the erection of a new bridge at Black Friers. They pretended, that the finances of the city could not bear the expence of it, which, upon the moſt moderate computation, would amount to upwards of 186,000l. excluſive of a further expence for the purchaſe of ſuch lands as may be neceſſary for making avenues thereto, in the whole, about 300,000l. A committee of the aldermen and common council were appointed to conſider of the matter, and the committee reported, that the expence was too great for the city eſtate to bear; that London bridge was in a ruinous condition, but that the foundation being good, it might be made ſafe and commodious for all kinds of paſſengers, at the expence of about 30,000l. and pulling down the houſes upon it, the rents of which produced about 800l. yearly. Notwithſtanding this report, the party for Black Friers bridge carried their point for making application to parliament for leave to build it; but the repairing London bridge, in the noble manner in which it now ſtands, was immediately begun.

The prince of Heſſe turns papiſt.

This year, the proteſtant religion received a ſevere blow by the defection of one of its principal profeſſors. This was the hereditary prince of Heſſe Caſſel, huſband to the princeſs Mary of England. Other motives than thoſe of conſcience or conviction, were aſſigned for this converſion, which he had kept ſecret for about four years. It was thought, with great appearance of reaſon, that certain Roman catholic powers, in order to weaken the proteſtant intereſt in Germany, had

had flattered him with the hopes of his being made an elector of the empire, and, in certain events, of even being chosen king of the Romans, if he should qualify himself by changing his religion. The court of England, and the other protestant powers of Europe, were astonished at this event. But after the first emotions of his father's grief were over, he immediately convened the estates of the landgraviate to deliberate upon the means of supporting the protestant religion in those territories; and their deliberations turned upon the following points: 1st, "To take the best methods for inviolably maintaining the religion, laws, and constitutions of the country. 2d, To this end, it shall be expressly stipulated, that prince Frederick of Hesse, when he comes to the regency, shall not have it in his power to alter what is established by the laws, nor grant any church to Roman catholics, for the public exercise of their religion. 3d, That the said prince shall not choose a confessor out of any order besides those that shall be specified. 4th, That the princes, his sons, till they are of age, shall be under the immediate direction of the reigning landgrave, or the states of the country, the prince their father being quite excluded from the care of their education. 5th, That the county of Hanau shall be given to the eldest of those princes, upon their father's accession to the regency of the landgraviate; it being withal understood, that the prince possessor of the county of Hanau, must profess the protestant religion. 6th, And the better to insure the execution of these regulations, they shall be guarantied by the kings of Prussia and Denmark, and also by the maritime powers, and the evangelic body of the empire." All those deliberations were happily carried into execution, and it is to be hoped, that in future times, no sensible prejudice from this apostasy, will happen to the protestant religion. Geo. II. 1754. Resolutions of the states of Hesse.

The English interest, this year, upon the continent of Europe, received a vast accession of strength and credit by the conduct of Mr. Wall, who had resided so long in England, from the court of Spain. This minister being recalled, found that a strong party had been formed about his master in favour of France; and being named to be secretary of state for foreign affairs, he resolved to counteract it, though it was supported by the queen mother herself, and by the marquis de la Ensenada, the first minister. With this view, he made his master fully sensible, that it was the interest of Spain to be in friendship with Great Britain; and, by the assistance of Mr. Keene, the English minister, he made his Catholic Spanish affairs.

Geo. II. 1754. majeſty ſo fully ſatisfied of Enſenada's views, that he was all of a ſudden arreſted and put into confinement, and Mr. Wall ſucceeded to the greateſt part of his powers; and thus the French intereſt in Spain was brought very low. Mr. Keene, for the ſervice he had performed upon this occaſion, was made a knight of the Bath. But notwithſtanding Mr. Wall's attachment to England, the Spaniards about the bay of Honduras, and other places in America, proceeded this year with much rigour againſt the Engliſh logwood cutters, and other ſubjects of Great Britain, and this produced ſome repreſentations from the court of London to that of Madrid; upon which his Catholic majeſty gave immediate orders, that all the remaining points in diſpute between the two crowns, ſhould be amicably adjuſted between ſir Benjamin Keene and Mr. Wall.

Differences with Portugal.

But the court of Liſbon was far from ſhowing ſuch favourable diſpoſitions towards Great Britain. They had, of late, formed prodigious ſchemes of trade, which they hoped to be enabled to carry into execution, by the vaſt returns of treaſure which they received from the Braſils. They had even formed an Eaſt-India company, and carried it on at a great expence, by engaging Britiſh mariners and workmen. All this was in order to procure commodities of their own, ſufficient to ballance the importation of foreign, eſpecially Engliſh, commodities, which ballance they were obliged to pay in gold, vaſt quantities of which was yearly imported into England. As this was a favourite point with the court of Liſbon, they endeavoured to eſtabliſh it by ſome very unwarrantable proceedings againſt the Engliſh merchants in Portugal, ſome of whom, upon very frivolous pretexts, were thrown into priſon; others were deprived of their property; and in ſhort, a general ſpirit of perſecution ſeemed to prevail againſt them over all Portugal. Nothing could be more impolitic, as well as unjuſt, than ſuch a conduct towards a nation to which Portugal owes her independency and ſubſiſtance; and ſome very ſtrong remonſtrances went from London to Liſbon on that head. All the ſatisfaction the Engliſh at firſt could get, with regard to the exportation of Portugueze gold, was, that the king inſiſted, not upon an abſolute ſtoppage of it, but that it ſhould pay to him a tax of 2 or 3 per cent. upon its being exported. But this being more than the trade would allow of, and there being, at that time, a great ſcarcity of corn in Portugal, which was ſupplied from England, without a poſſibility of her paying the ballance in favour of England but in gold, the court of Liſbon was at laſt

laſt contented to connive at the exportation, and matters went on in their former channel. Geo. II. 1754.

Notwithſtanding the apparent danger, as has been already ſet forth, which the Britiſh poſſeſſions in America were in from the French, yet it is incredible how high animoſities every day run between the Engliſh and their governors there. Dinwiddie, governor of Virginia, demanded a piſtole, or guinea, for every patent that paſſed for land, and this demand was voted by the aſſembly to be illegal, arbitrary, and oppreſſive; and they declared every man who paid it, to be an enemy to his country; and at the ſame time they ſent an agent to England, to ſollicit the ſuppreſſion of it. But nothing, at this time, made ſo great a noiſe, as the inſtructions given in England to ſir Danvers Osborn, lately appointed governor of New York. This unhappy gentleman, who came to an untimely end upon his arrival in his government, had no opportunity of opening his inſtructions in the aſſembly to which they related; but, upon his death, they fell into ſome hands who tranſmitted them to England, where they were made public, to the great ſcandal of all the friends of the government. The preamble of theſe inſtructions complained, in the moſt bitter terms, of the former want of duty, allegiance, loyalty, and unanimity of the aſſembly of that province, and of their having violated the royal commiſſion and inſtructions, by aſſuming to themſelves the power of diſpoſing of public money in the laws which they had annually or occaſionally paſſed. The governor was, in the ſtrongeſt manner, inſtructed to inſiſt upon the reformation of all thoſe public abuſes, and likewiſe upon the aſſembly ſettling a certain revenue for the public ſervice of the government, and likewiſe for the governor himſelf. But the cloſe of thoſe inſtructions, which gave the greateſt offence, was as follows:

The diſtractions of the Engliſh intereſt in America increaſes.

"And it is our further will and pleaſure, that all money raiſed for the ſupply and ſupport of government, or upon emergencies for immediate ſervice as aforeſaid, ſhall be diſpoſed of, and applied to the ſervice for which it was granted, by warrant from you, by and with the advice and conſent of the council of our ſaid province, and no otherwiſe. But the aſſembly may nevertheleſs be permitted, from time to time, to view and examine the accounts of money diſpoſed of by virtue of laws made by them, which you are to ſignify to them, as there ſhall be occaſion. And it is our further will and pleaſure, that if any of the members of our council, or any officer holding any places of truſt or profit within our ſaid government, ſhall, in any manner whatever, give his or

Geo. II. 1754. their aſſent to, or in any wiſe adviſe or concur with the aſſembly in paſſing any act or vote whereby our royal prerogative may be leſſened or impaired, or whereby any money ſhall be raiſed or diſpoſed of for the public ſervice, contrary to, or inconſiſtent with the method preſcribed by theſe our inſtructions to you, you ſhall forthwith remove or ſuſpend ſuch counſellor or other officer ſo offending; giving to our commiſſioners of trade and plantations an immediate account thereof, in order to be laid before us."

The diſputes between the Penſilvanians and their governor, about taxing the lands and effects of the proprietors, went ſtill farther, and was attended with the worſt effects for the public ſervice; but the particulars are too various and immaterial to be inſerted here.

Notwithſtanding all thoſe diſcouragements from the ſpirit of the Britiſh Americans, the government this year exerted itſelf in the moſt ſtrenuous manner for their protection, and commiſſions were iſſued out for raiſing two regiments there, to conſiſt of 4000 men, under the command of ſir William Pepperel and governor Shirley, with orders for ſuch officers as were appointed for them in Great Britain or Ireland, to embark without loſs of time on board the tranſports provided for their paſſage to North America. Several regiments were likewiſe ordered from Great Britain and Ireland at the ſame time for the ſame ſervice.

Parliament meets. Such was the ſituation of affairs at home and abroad, when the parliament, after various prorogations, met on the 14th of November, and the ſeſſion was opened by a ſpeech from his majeſty, in which it was remarked he took little or no notice of the national differences with France; but mentioned, "that the general ſtate of affairs in Europe, had received very little alteration ſince their laſt meeting; but he had the ſatisfaction to acquaint them, that he had lately received the ſtrongeſt aſſurances from his good brother the king of Spain, of his firm reſolution to cultivate friendſhip and confidence with him, with reciprocal acts of harmony and good faith, and that he will perſevere in theſe ſentiments. And that it ſhall be his principal view, as well to ſtrengthen the foundation and ſecure the duration of a general peace, as to improve the preſent advantages of it for promoting the trade of his good ſubjects, and protecting thoſe poſſeſſions which make one great ſource of our commerce and wealth." He then recommended to them their compleating their plan for appropriating the forfeited eſtates in the Highlands to the public ſervice. In the reſt of the ſpeech there was nothing particular,

King's ſpeech.

ticular, nor in the addreſſes of thanks from the two houſes. That from the houſe of peers was moved for by the earl of Waldgrave, and ſeconded by the earl of Bradalbin; and that in the houſe of commons by ſir George Lee, ſeconded by colonel Conway. His majeſty, by not being particular as to the differences with France, took from the ſmall remains of the oppoſition all pretext of debate upon the terms of his ſpeech; and no conduct was found now to be ſo popular, as that of falling in with the ſpirit of the court, for humbling France. The total of the ſupply granted this ſeſſion, was 4,073,779l. one million of which was granted to his majeſty for enabling him to augment his forces by land and by ſea; 20,000l. ſubſidy was granted to the elector of Bavaria, and 32,000l. to the king of Poland. Little or no oppoſition was made in the committee of ſupply to thoſe grants. It was well known that the French were exerting themſelves at Breſt, and other of their ports, in fitting out a powerful naval armament, on board of which a great body of land forces was to be embarked; and they made no ſecret, that the whole was deſigned to ſupport their ſettlements in North America. It was evident, that the court of Verſailles would never have ventured upon this bold meaſure in the then imperfect ſtate of their marine, had they not truſted to the ſuperiority of their land force in Europe for invading his majeſty's German dominions, and thereby engaging him to make a peace upon their own terms. For this reaſon it was that thoſe foreign ſubſidies met with no oppoſition in the committee of ſupply. Amongſt the other reſolutions made by the committee of ways and means for paying this money, one was, "That a ſum of money, not exceeding one million, be raiſed by way of lottery; 100,000l. thereof to be deducted for the benefit of the public, and the remaining 900,000l. to be charged on the produce of the ſinking fund, at the rate of 3l. per cent. per annum, to commence from the 5th of January 1756. The tickets to be 10l. each; two pounds whereof to be paid down at the time of ſubſcribing by way of depoſit; ſuch ſubſcription to be finally cloſed at 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the 15th of this inſtant April; and in caſe a larger ſum than the ſaid million ſhall be ſubſcribed within the ſaid term, a proportionable reduction upon ſuch exceſs ſhall, as near as poſſible, be made out of each ſubſcriber's ſhare." This particular is mentioned here, as a proof of the diſtreſs the government was at this time under to raiſe money, as it was obliged to have recourſe to the deſtructive, but never failing, expedient of a public lottery.

Geo. II. 1754.

Supplies.

Unanimity in parliament.

A lottery.

Geo. II. 1754. But while the public buſineſs was going thus quietly on in the houſe of commons, the controverted elections were productive of great heats and debates. The chief, as has been already mentioned, was that for Oxfordſhire, where the ſheriff returned all the four candidates, to wit, lord Parker, ſir Edward Turner, lord Wenman, and ſir James Daſhwood, who all of them petitioned, complaining of an undue election, and the double return. The two former were choſen upon what was called the new intereſt, and were ſupported by the court, as the two latter were by what was called the old intereſt. The expence and animoſity which this diſpute occaſioned, both without and within doors, was incredible. Even murder was committed upon the place of election; and the houſe this ſeſſion, after the public buſineſs was finiſhed, hardly proceeded upon any other. The friends of the new intereſt, however, happening to be moſt powerful in the houſe of commons, lord Parker and ſir Edward Turner were, after long and tedious pleadings and debates, voted to be the ſitting members, by a majority of 233, againſt 165.

Oxfordſhire election.

Chelſea hoſpital bill.

The uſury practiſed by the creditors of the Chelſea penſioners, were at this time ſo flagrant, that Mr. Pitt, the paymaſter general, moved for leave to bring in a bill to prevent them, by rendering all contracts that mortgaged their penſions void, and by preventing the neceſſity which the poor penſioners were under to borrow upon their penſions, by advancing half a year's penſion before hand; whereas formerly a penſioner received nothing till the end of the firſt twelve months after he was put upon the liſt. This humane bill being ordered to be brought in, had a ſpeedy paſſage thro' both houſes, and received the royal aſſent this ſeſſion.

Braddock ordered to be ſent to America.

A war with France appearing every day more and more inevitable, major general Braddock was appointed by his majeſty to take upon him the command of a body of regular troops to be ſent to North America, and who were to act in conjunction with the forces that were to be raiſed there. But as the mutiny act did not clearly ſubject the troops raiſed in America to the military law, when that act came this year before the committee, it was ordered, that it be an inſtruction to the ſaid committee, that they have power to receive a clauſe, or clauſes, to provide, that all officers and ſoldiers of any troops, being muſtered and in pay, which are, or ſhall be, raiſed in any of the Britiſh provinces in America, by authority of the reſpective governors or governments thereof, ſhall, at all times, and in all places, when they happen to join or act in conjunction with his majeſty's Britiſh forces, be

be liable to martial law and diſcipline, in like manner to all intents and purpoſes as the Britiſh forces are, and ſhall be ſubject to the ſame trial, penalties, and puniſhments. Notwithſtanding the wiſdom and neceſſity of this clauſe, an agent of the Maſſachuſets bay offered a petition againſt it; but after ſome debate, it was not ſuffered to be brought up, and the bill, with the recited clauſe, paſſed both houſes without any amendment, and received the royal aſſent. This ſeſſion was remarkable for the great encouragement it gave to the whale fiſhery, by continuing the bounty of 40s. a ton upon all ſhips employed therein, and by making ſeveral other very uſeful regulations in that profitable branch of trade. The free Britiſh fiſhery, which, as the reader may remember, had been eſtabliſhed ſome years before with the moſt ſanguine expectations, had not anſwered them. But this ſeſſion it received all the farther encouragement that its beſt friends could apply for, though hitherto all has been but to little purpoſe. Geo II. 1754. Whale fiſhery encouraged.

The reader has already ſeen in the general account of the ſupplies granted this ſeſſion, that 1,000,000l. ſterling was granted to his majeſty, to enable him to augment his forces by land and by ſea. This was in conſequence of a meſſage which ſir Thomas Robinſon, ſecretary of ſtate, brought from the king on the 27th of March, which was as follows: "His majeſty having, at the beginning of this ſeſſion, declared, that his principal object was to preſerve the public tranquillity, and at the ſame time to protect thoſe poſſeſſions which make one great ſource of the commerce and wealth of his kingdoms, now finds it neceſſary to acquaint the houſe of commons, that the preſent ſituation of affairs, make it requiſite to augment his forces by land and by ſea, and to take ſuch other meaſures, as may beſt tend to preſerve the general peace of Europe, and to ſecure the juſt rights and poſſeſſions of his crown in America, as well as to repel any attempts whatſoever that may be made to ſupport or countenance any deſigns which may be formed againſt his majeſty and his kingdoms; and his majeſty doubts not, but his faithful commons (on whoſe affection and zeal he entirely relies) will enable him to make ſuch augmentation, and to take ſuch meaſures for the ſupport of the honour of his crown, and the true intereſts of his people, and for the ſecurity of his dominions in the preſent critical conjuncture, as the exigency of affairs may require; in doing which, his majeſty will have as much regard to the eaſe of his good ſubjects, as ſhall be conſiſtent with their ſafety and welfare." King's meſſage to parliament.

Geo. II. 1755. The nation, at the time this meſſage was delivered, was ſo ſtrongly convinced of the wiſdom and neceſſity of a war with France, that a moſt dutiful addreſs was unanimouſly voted in anſwer to the meſſage, and the million was granted. The earl of Albemarle, the Engliſh ambaſſador at Paris, had been dead for ſome time; and though the French, in all their ſea-ports, were making the greateſt preparations for ſupporting their encroachments in America, yet the ſtrongeſt aſſurances came to England from that miniſtry, that no ſuch preparations were making, and that no hoſtility was intended by France againſt Great Britain or her dependencies. Theſe aſſurances were generally communicated to the Britiſh miniſtry by the duke of Mirepoix, the French ambaſſador, who was himſelf ſo far impoſed upon, that he believed them to be ſincere, and did all in his power to prevent a rupture between the two nations. The preparations, however, were ſo notorious, that they could be no longer concealed; and Mirepoix was upbraided at St. James's with being inſincere, and the proofs of his court's double dealing were laid before him. He appeared to be ſtruck with them; and complaining bitterly of his being impoſed upon, he went in perſon over to France, where he reproached the miniſtry for having made him their tool. They referred him to their king, who ordered him to return to England with freſh aſſurances of friendſhip; but he had ſcarcely delivered them, when undoubted intelligence came, that a French fleet from Breſt and Rochfort, was ready to ſeal, with a great number of land-forces on board. Upon this, a very hot preſs was begun upon the river Thames, and in all the out ports of England, and continued both for ſeamen and landmen, till, beſides the ordinary cruizers and guard-ſhips for the defence of the Engliſh coaſt, eleven ſhips of the line, and one frigate, with about 6000 men on board, were fitted out under admiral Boſcawen, and ſailed on the 23d of April. But by this time it was known, that the French fleet, which conſiſted of 25 ſhips of the line, beſides frigates and tranſports, with a vaſt number of warlike ſtores, and between 3 and 4000 land-forces under baron Dieſkau, were ready to ſail from Breſt under admiral Macnamara. Upon this intelligence, admiral Holborne was ordered to reinforce Boſcawen, with ſix ſhips of the line and one frigate, and a great number of capital ſhips were put into commiſſion. It was the 6th of May before Macnamara ſailed; but he ſoon returned with nine of his capital ſhips, and ſuffered the reſt to proceed under the command of M. Bois de la Mothe.

Unanimouſly approved of.

Mirepoix goes to France. 1755.

The French fleet ſails to America, and Boſcawen and Holborne follow them.

When

When the news of ſo ſtrong a ſquadron ſailing from Breſt was confirmed, the people of England grew extreamly uneaſy for the fate of the ſquadrons under Boſcawen and Holborne; and it undoubtedly was owing to the unaccountable bad management of the French, that one, or both, of thoſe ſquadrons were not deſtroyed. Geo. II. 1755.

In the mean while, his majeſty ſent to the houſe of peers the ſame meſſage that he had ſent to the houſe of commons, and received the like dutiful addreſs; and on the 25th of April he put an end to the ſeſſion of parliament by a ſpeech, in which, amongſt other things, he informed them, "That he had religiouſly adhered to the ſtipulations of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and made it his care not to injure or offend any power whatſoever; but never could entertain the thoughts of purchaſing the name of peace at the expence of ſuffering encroachments upon, or yielding up, what juſtly belongs to Great Britain, either by antient poſſeſſion or ſolemn treaties. That the vigour and firmneſs of his parliament, on this important occaſion, have enabled him to be prepared for ſuch contingencies as may happen. That if reaſonable and honourable terms of accommodation can be agreed upon, he will be ſatisfied, and, in all events, rely on the juſtice of his cauſe, the effectual ſupport of his people, and the protection of the divine providence." After this, the parliament was prorogued to the 27th of May. End of the ſeſſion. King's ſpeech.

While all Europe was in ſuſpence about the fate of the Engliſh and French ſquadrons, the preparations for a vigorous ſea war were going forward in England with an unparalleled ſpirit and ſucceſs. Notwithſtanding this, the French court ſtill flattered itſelf, that Great Britain would, out of tenderneſs to his majeſty's German dominions, deſiſt from hoſtilities. Mirepoix continued to act with great ſincerity, and had frequent conferences with the Britiſh miniſtry, who made no ſecret, that their admirals, Boſcawen in particular, had orders to fall upon the French ſhips wherever they could meet with them. Upon this Mirepoix made, in the name of his maſter, a formal declaration, that the firſt gun that was fired in hoſtility, ſhould kindle all Europe into a war. This declaration, far from intimidating the Engliſh, made them redouble their preparations for war. Great premiums were given to ſailors and ſoldiers, not only by the government, but by almoſt every conſiderable city and town in England. Other branches of the public ſervice went on with the like alacrity; and a ſum of almoſt four millions, inſtead of one, was ſubſcribed to the lottery. The ſituation of public Great preparations for war. Threatning of the French ambaſſador.

Geo. II. 1755. public affairs requiring his majeſty to go to Germany this ſummer, had created great apprehenſions in the minds of men, leſt the French might either intercept him in his journey, or prevent his return. The earl of Paulet had made a motion, or rather a ſpeech, in the houſe of peers, againſt his majeſty's leaving the kingdom at that juncture; but he was the only lord who divided from his queſtion. Notwithſtanding this, the public uneaſineſs continued ſtill to be very great; and the more ſo, as it was apprehended that there would, during his majeſty's abſence, be no good agreement amongſt the regency, who were as follows. His royal highneſs William duke of Cumberland; Thomas lord archbiſhop of Canterbury; Philip earl Hardwicke, lord high chancellor; John earl Granville, preſident of the council; Charles duke of Marlborough, lord privy ſeal; John duke of Rutland, ſteward of the houſehold; Charles duke of Grafton, lord Chamberlain; Archibald duke of Argyle; duke of Newcaſtle, firſt commiſſioner of the treaſury; duke of Dorſet, maſter of the horſe; earl of Holderneſs, one of the ſecretaries of ſtate; earl of Rochfort, groom of the ſtole; marquis of Hartington, lord lieutenant of Ireland; lord Anſon, firſt commiſſioner of the admiralty; ſir Thomas Robinſon, ſecretary of ſtate; Henry Fox, eſq; ſecretary of war.

Regency appointed on the king's going to Hanover.

Character of Braddock.

The choice of general Braddock to command in America, was generally thought to be unfortunate. Though he was brave and a good officer, yet he was looked upon as being haughty, poſitive, and inacceſſible; qualities ill ſuited to the nature of the people amongſt whom he was to command, and the bad effects of them were encreaſed, when, upon his arrival in America, he found a great backwardneſs in all the preparations for his march, which was deſtined to be towards the French forts on the Ohio. At the ſame time, Mr. Shirley, now raiſed to the rank of a general officer, was ordered to take the rout of Albany, and the back part of New York government, as far as the lakes Erie and Ontario, on which veſſels were to be built for preſerving the communication between the Britiſh ſubjects and the inland part of the country. But this ſervice never was performed, through the unaccountable delays it met with, tho' Shirley's appointments were very great, and the body he was to command amounted to near 7000 men. Another body of troops was deſtined to act under colonel Monkton, to drive the French from their forts in the bay of Fundy, particularly that of Beau Sejour. This laſt ſervice was bravely and ſucceſsfully performed by colonel Monkton, who,

Operations in America.

who, after beating the French out of all their poſts which they had fortified to defend the paſſes in his march, bombarded the fort for four days, and obliged it to ſurrender, though it had 26 pieces of cannon mounted. In this he was greatly aſſiſted by captain Rous, who commanded the naval part of the expedition. The garriſon was ſent to Louiſbourg, but were not to bear arms in America for the ſpace of ſix months; and the Acadians, who had joined the French, in conſideration that they had been obliged to do it on pain of death, were pardoned. Colonel Monkton, after that, took or deſtroyed all the leſſer ſettlements of the French upon that peninſula, and after throwing a garriſon into Beau Sejour, which name he changed into that of Fort Cumberland, the Acadians, or French neutrals, to the number of 15,000, were obliged to give up their arms, and the neighbouring Indians were now awed from moleſting the Britiſh ſubjects. Geo. II. 1755. Fort Beau Sejour taken by Monkton.

The expedition under Braddock was far from being ſo fortunate. He landed in Virginia inſtead of Penſilvania, and there he found every thing unprovided for his proceeding. Before he left England, he received, from under colonel Napier's hand, a moſt excellent ſet of inſtructions from the duke of Cumberland, and ſuch as did honour to the military ſkill of his royal highneſs. But thoſe inſtructions always ſuppoſed that the general was to be well ſerved with proviſions and carriages, to enable him to proceed on ſo long a march. It appears, likewiſe, that the attempt upon Niagara, was, in a great meaſure, referred to him, and that the reduction of Crown Point, was to be left chiefly to the provincial forces. But when Braddock came to Will's Creek, he found himſelf and his troops, which amounted to about 2000, in the utmoſt diſtreſs for neceſſaries of all kinds; and this detained him there ſo long, that the French had an opportunity of making the moſt advantageous diſpoſitions for interrupting his march. He had been promiſed 150 waggons, and 300 horſes, with plenty of proviſions of all kinds, from the back ſettlements of Penſilvania; but he received no more than 15 waggons and 100 draught horſes, and the proviſions ſent him were ſo bad, that they could not be uſed. The people of Penſilvania, however, largely made up for theſe deficiencies, and the general at laſt ſet out on his march. Being advanced to a place called the Little Meadows, he found it neceſſary to leave colonel Dunbar there with a detachment of 800 men, and two pieces of cannon, while he himſelf advanced with about 1200, and 10 pieces of cannon. Upon his march, he Braddock's expedition, defeat, and death.

Geo. II. 1755. he was earneſtly intreated by his officers, particularly by ſir Peter Hacket, to proceed with great caution, and to employ the friendly Indians that were with him by way of advanced guard, in caſe of ambuſcades. Though this had been particularly recommended to him by the duke of Cumberland, yet Braddock not only diſdained the advice, but treated the officers who gave it with ſome contempt, and his ſoldiers with ſuch ſeverity, that it greatly contributed to the diſaſter of the expedition. In the mean while, the French, who were poſted at Fort Du Queſne and upon the Ohio, had early and excellent intelligence of all his motions, till on the 8th of July that he encamped within ten miles of Fort Du Queſne. But next day, as he was advancing to attack it, in his march through a cloſe kind of a ſwamp, overgrown with buſhes and very high graſs, he was himſelf attacked by an ambuſcade of the enemy, which was poſted ſo artfully and advantageouſly, as to be concealed from the Engliſh, who received a ſmart fire. Many of them were immediately ſeized with a panic, and falling into diſorder, they fled with the utmoſt precipitation, notwithſtanding all that their officers, ſome of whom behaved very gallantly, could do to ſtop them. As to Braddock, he diſcovered at once the greateſt intrepidity, and the higheſt imprudence. Inſtead of ordering a retreat till he could ſcour the hedges and buſhes, from whence the fire came, with grape ſhot, from the ten pieces of cannon he had with him, or ordering flanking parties of his Indians to advance towards the enemy, he obſtinately continued upon the ſpot where he was, and gave orders for the few brave officers and men who remained with him, and who were diſordered by the precipitate flight of Dunbar and Hacket's regiments, that were in the front, to form regularly, and to advance againſt the enemy. While this was doing, his officers and men were falling thick about him, without any one being able to diſcover the hand from which his deſtruction came.

Sir Peter Hacket killed.

Sir Peter Hacket was killed upon the ſpot, and the general, whoſe obſtinacy ſeemed to grow with his danger, received ſeveral wounds, of which ſome proved mortal; while almoſt all the officers were leiſurely marked out, and killed or wounded by the enemy, ſome of whom now appeared from their ambuſh. The Virginia troops, who were in the rear, offered to cover the two flying regiments; but the latter ſaid, that though they were willing to advance againſt their enemy, yet they could not go blindly on againſt hedges and buſhes that were lined with unſeen deſtruction. Notwithſtanding this, the Virginians formed and advanced againſt the enemy;

enemy; and it was owing to them, that the regulars were not all cut off. But perceiving that their principal officers were killed, and that they were intirely unſupported by the regulars, they were obliged to retreat from the enemy's fire, which continued very hot. The loſs of ſoldiers and officers on this occaſion, amounted to above one half of the army, and the cannon, with a valuable booty, fell into the hands of the enemy. General Braddock's body was ſaid to have been brought off by the courage of lieutenant colonel Gage, who greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf that day, and of another officer. Geo. II. 1755.

Reflection upon Braddock's expedition.

This is all the account that can be given of this action, which, recent as it is, is more dark, and related with more various circumſtances, than if it had happened in the times of antiquity. By the beſt informations that can be had, the enemy was not viſible, till after the rout of the regulars was compleated; and the ſlaughter that was made, was moſtly, if not intirely, owing to the French Indians; ſome of whom appeared when the Virginians advanced, and ſet up that dreadful yell called the war hoop. A body of French, however, were there, but lay intrenched in the front, from whence they plied their muſquetry, and a few of them were ſaid to be killed by a rambling fire that was diſcharged by the Britiſh regulars. Upon the whole, the diſaſter was juſtly aſcribed to Braddock's natural haughtineſs, and his military education, which made him diſdain to employ the irregulars, or to proceed in that method of war, which alone can be ſucceſsful in ſuch a country, and againſt ſuch an enemy. Notwithſtanding all this, it was looked upon to be pretty extraordinary, why the remaining 800 men, who were but a few miles behind under colonel Dunbar, did not advance; and why he did not endeavour to form the fugitives, and to profit by Braddock's miſcarriage. But inſtead of that, a moſt precipitate retreat of the whole towards Will's Creek, was reſolved upon and executed, and all Virginia, with the neighbouring colonies, were filled with conſternation, which ſoon communicated itſelf to Great Britain.

Boſcawen's naval expedition.

The naval expedition under admiral Boſcawen, was ſomewhat more fortunate, though far from anſwering the expectations of the public. He made a proſperous voyage till he came to the banks of Newfoundland, where his rendezvous was, and in a few days the French fleet, under De la Mothe, came to the ſame ſtation. But the thick fogs which prevail upon thoſe coaſts, eſpecially at that time of the year, kept the two ſquadrons from ſeeing one another; and part of the French

ſquadron

Geo. II. 1755. squadron escaped up the river St. Lawrence, while part of them went round and got into the same river thro' the streights of Bellisle, by a way which was never known to be attempted before by ships of war. While Boscawen's fleet, however, lay before Cape Race, on the banks of Newfoundland, which was thought to be the proper station for intercepting the enemy, two French ship, the Alcide of 64 guns and 480 men, and the Lys, pierced for 64 guns, but mounting only 22, and having eight companies of land-forces on board, fell in with the Dunkirk, captain Howe, and the Defiance, captain Andrews, two 60 gun ships of the English squadron, and were both of them, after a smart engagement, in which captain, afterwards lord, Howe, behaved with the greatest skill and intrepidity, taken, with about 80001. on board. Though this action was far from answering the grand destination of the fleet, yet when the news of it reached England, it was of infinite service to the public credit of every kind; as the manner in which it was conducted, was a plain proof that the English government was resolved to observe no farther measures with the French, but to take or destroy their ships wherever they could be met with.

The Alcide and Lys taken.

Reasons for the conduct of the English.

It was not long before the public saw the effects of this resolution, which the French complained of as a flagrant breach of national faith; but it was wisely retorted on the part of England, that their encroachments in America, had rendered reprisals both justifiable and necessary. The resolution of making them, was not agreed to without mature deliberation in the English council; and the visible increase of the French marine of late years, which, in all probability, would soon be employed against Great Britain, produced an order for making reprizals general in Europe as well as in America; and that all French ships, whether outward or homeward bound, should be stopt and brought into British ports. To give the greater weight to those orders, it was resolved to employ those admirals, and other sea officers, who had become so popular by their conduct and success towards the end of the last war. Accordingly, on the 24th of July, sir Edward Hawke sailed on a cruise to the westward, with 18 ships of the line, one frigate, and one sloop, besides three ships of the line that were not on the same destination. Those ships, after their cruise, in which they were disappointed in meeting with the French fleet, returned to England the latter end of September and the beginning of October. On the 14th of October, 22 ships of the line, two frigates, and two sloops, sailed on a cruise to the westward under

Sir Edward Hawke's cruise,

under admiral Byng, with a view to intercept the French squadron under Du Guay, and likewiſe the ſquadron under La Mothe, ſhould it return from America. But this ſquadron likewiſe returned, without being able to effect any thing, though it was allowed on all hands, that the admiral behaved like a good officer in the choice of his ſtations. He brought back his ſquadron on the 22d of November to Spithead. Geo. II. 1755. and Byng's.

While theſe meaſures were purſuing for the general ſecurity of the Britiſh coaſts and trade in Europe, the French trade was every where deſtroyed by the Engliſh cruizers; and before Chriſtmas, no fewer than 300 merchant ſhips, and 8000 ſailors, were carried into Engliſh ports. Many of thoſe ſhips, which were from St. Domingo and Martinico, were of immenſe value, and great numbers of them were loaden with fiſh from the banks of Newfoundland. By thoſe captures, the Engliſh miniſtry anſwered many purpoſes. They deprived the French of a great body of ſeamen, and witheld from them a very large property, which greatly diſtreſſed their people, and ruined many of their traders. Their commerce was inſured for outward bound ſhips at the rate of 30 per cent. and their homeward bound at the rate of 50; while the Engliſh paid no more than the common inſurance. This intolerable burden was felt by all degrees of people amongſt them: their miniſtry was publickly reviled, even by their parliaments; and the French name, from being the terror, began to be the contempt of Europe. To give the greater ſpirit to the Engliſh ſailors and labourers in the dock yards, his royal highneſs the duke of Cumberland went this ſummer to Portſmouth, where he was received with the greateſt honours; and the lord Anſon, with other lords of the admiralty, in their own perſons, forwarded the preparations both there and in other parts of the kingdom. Great loſſes of the French by the Engliſh.

It muſt be confeſſed, that all the operations of the Engliſh in America, were not carried on with equal activity. The ſlowneſs of general Shirley's motions, prevented fort Oſwego, which was of great importance to the Engliſh trade upon the lake Ontario, and with the neighbouring Indians, from being properly fortified. It was neceſſary that Shirley ſhould march to Oſwego, before he could attack Niagara; but ſo many difficulties, either real or pretended, occurred, that the expedition againſt Niagara was at laſt totally laid aſide. It was the 17th or 18th of Auguſt, before he arrived at Oſwego, and the laſt of his troops and artillery, which were deſtined for the defence of that fort under lieutenant colonel Mercer, did not arrive thither before the 31ſt of the ſame month. Operations in America.

Various

Geo. II. 1755. Various were the cauſes to which thoſe unaccountable delays were aſcribed; the true one ſeems to have been, that he was hated by ſome men of conſequence in the Engliſh governments, by whom he was to be ſupplied with men and proviſions. When he came to Oſwego, he found it almoſt deſtitute of the latter. His forces amounted to no more than 2500 men, moſt of them recruits, and theſe had been weakened and harraſſed by a very long march; and intelligence came daily of the vaſt preparations that were making againſt them by the French, who were greatly encouraged by Braddock's defeat. Add to all this, that even ſuppoſing, contrary to all probability, that Niagara had been taken, there was reaſon to fear that the French at Frontenack, who were very numerous, and moſt of them veterans, might have found means to have cut off his retreat, by beſieging and taking Oſwego; in which caſe he muſt have been obliged to have ſurrendered at diſcretion, and not only Shenectady, but even Albany itſelf muſt have been in the utmoſt danger. Such were the chief reaſons that, together with the lateneſs of the ſeaſon and ſcarcity of proviſions, induced Mr. Shirley to return without attempting the reduction of fort Niagara. But even his retreat muſt have been very precarious, had it not been for a fortunate event which happened by his delay at Oſwego.

Mr. Johnſon's character.

Mr. Johnſon, by birth an Iriſhman, and a relation of ſir Peter Warren, had been for ſome years ſettled in thoſe parts as a trader, by which he had made a conſiderable eſtate. He had a peculiar faculty of accommodating himſelf to the genius of the Indians, whoſe language he had acquired; and by his humanity to them, and the fairneſs of his dealings, he acquired the moſt conſiderable perſonal intereſt of any man in the country, not only with the Indians, but the other inhabitants. For theſe reaſons, joined to his natural courage and activity of perſon, he was conſidered as the moſt proper officer to be ſent at the head of the New England militia and provincial troops, to reduce Crown Point. Having, in a general meeting with the Indians, ſecured them perfectly in the intereſt of England, he ſet out from Albany at the head of between 5 and 6000 men, beſides Indians, that had been raiſed by the governments of Boſton, Connecticut, New Hampſhire, Rhode Iſland, and New York. Being encamped at lake St. George, and his forces divided, the body which was under himſelf was attacked by the main French army, commanded by Dieſkau, conſiſting of between 2 and 3000 of their beſt troops, French, Canadians, and Indians, who

Wm Pitt
J. Miller sc.

who made a moſt deſperate attack upon Johnſon's intrench- Geo. II.
ments; they were, however, repulſed, and purſued with great 1755.
loſs by the provincial troops; Dieſkau was wounded and
taken priſoner, and above 800 of his men were cut in pieces. and victory over the French.

This victory was attended by the beſt conſequences to the Engliſh intereſt in America. It preſerved the communication with Oſwego; it ſaved Albany, and all the upper part of the colony of New York, and confirmed the affections of the Indians, which Johnſon had been at ſo much pains to conciliate, to the Engliſh; while general Shirley, who now commanded in chief all the Engliſh forces in America, was ſeaſonably ſupplied with ſtores and proviſions by ſir Charles Hardy, the Governor of New York, and was enabled to return from his unfortunate expedition, without being harraſſed by the enemy. The loſs of the Engliſh upon this occaſion, was about 200, Indians included. Johnſon himſelf was wounded, and Hendrick, a famous ſachem, or king of an Indian tribe in the Engliſh intereſt, was killed. Conſequences of it.

Such may be ſaid to have been the warlike operations by ſea and land of the Engliſh during this year, which was chequered with a variety of good and bad events. The great meaſure that had been propoſed at the conferences amongſt the Britiſh governors at Albany, of reſolving all their governments into a political republic under one head, to whom they were to be accountable in all caſes of common ſafety, was unaccountably ſuffered to drop. Inſtead of that, in the moſt critical times of danger, the diſputes between the governors and the people over all the Engliſh continent of America, and between one colony and another, grew to a greater height than ever had been known in times of public tranquillity. Each croſſed the operations of the other, and each claimed the capital part in all the ſervices that were performed. This occaſioned many heats and debates that cannot be related here. The great diſtances which the American troops had to march, before they could form a junction with each other, and before they could come at an enemy, often occaſioned ſkirmiſhes, encounters, ſurprizes, and barbarities, which were never failed to be ſet forth with great pomp and very exaggerated circumſtances in their provincial Gazettes, but are immaterial to a national hiſtory like this. Diſtractions amongſt the Engliſh ſubjects in America.

The quiet of Great Britain this year, was inſured by the prudent meaſures taken in Ireland by the marquis of Hartington, eldeſt ſon to the duke of Devonſhire, whom his majeſty had named to be his lord lieutenant of that kingdom; and a better choice for that important poſt could not have been Character and conduct of the marquis of Hartington.

Geo. II. 1755. made. He had lately fallen into the eſtate and intereſt of the Burlington family, by one of that nobleman's eldeſt daughters whom he married, and conſequently he was conſidered both in point of property and family, as one of the firſt perſonages in the kingdom. But this was the leaſt advantage that he had. The ſoundneſs of his judgment, his addreſs in managing parties without being warpt by any, and of compoſing differences without his ever having occaſioned any, but above all, his diſintereſtedneſs, candour, and humanity, tempered with a dignity becoming his ſtation, pointed him out as the only perſon who could allay the heats of that divided people, which had of late become outrageous and dangerous to government.

He reſtores the quet of Ireland.

For though the leading men in parliament, by his prudent management, had been brought to temper without England having given up any point of ſuperiority over Ireland, yet the ferment continued very high amongſt the midling and lower ranks of people; but the wiſe meaſures of the lord lieutenant, and the excellent public laws which he encouraged and paſſed, ſoon allayed it, and they were brought to a much better temper than they ever were in before their late differences happened.

Addreſs of the convocation.

The people of England, at the ſame time, were infatuated with a different kind of a ſpirit. United as they were, in point of politicks, their manners took a new and a more deteſtable turn. To this, the publication of lord Bolingbroke's poſthumous works, had not a little contributed, by ſpreading among them a diſbelief of a future ſtate. The grand jury of the city and liberty of Weſtminſter, had the courage to preſent thoſe writings; and ſome intimation was given by Herring, then archbiſhop of Canterbury, that their preſentment would be carried into effect, by a proſecution againſt the printer and publiſher. But the affair went no farther than the convocation of Canterbury preſenting an addreſs to the king, complaining in general of the depravity of the people, evidenced beyond all former examples, not only by flagitious actions, but by the publication of writings which ſtrike at the very vitals of all religion, and ſhake the foundations of civil government.

Spain firm to Great Britain.

The foreign tranſactions relating to Britain this year, were very important, but kept very ſecret. The court of France endeavoured to inſpire that of Spain with a jealouſy of the Engliſh power by ſea, eſpecially in America, and the Spaniſh court ſeemed inclined to accept of the office of mediator. But Mr. Wall, who was perfectly well acquainted with the ſtate of affairs between France and Great Britain, ſeconded the

the repreſentations of the Britiſh miniſtry, which ſhewed, that however they might accept of the mediation, they could not agree to any ſuſpenſion of arms in America, without hazarding the whole of the Britiſh intereſt there; and that the captures which had been made by the Engliſh, were the neceſſary reſult of the French encroachments and injuſtice. Thoſe repreſentations had the effect, that all farther diſcourſe upon mediation ceaſed. Geo. II. 1755.

The recourſe the miniſtry of Verſailles had, was to the princes in Germany; and they prevailed ſo far with the elector of Cologn, that they brought him over to their party, ſo as to conſent to their forming magazines in Weſtphalia. This was a plain intimation of their intentions againſt Hanover; but they gave his Britannic majeſty, who was then in his electoral dominions, another offer of ſparing them, if he would engage, that affairs ſhould be accommodated to their ſatisfaction in America. This propoſal being rejected with diſdain, the count d'Aubeterre, envoy extraordinary from France at the court of Vienna, entered into a ſecret negotiation with the miniſters of the empreſs queen, and gave broad intimations, that if they would enter into the views of his moſt Chriſtian majeſty, ſhe might command all that was in his power againſt the king of Pruſſia. The ſecret articles of the treaty of Peterſburgh between the two empreſſes had ſtipulated a kind of partition of his Pruſſian majeſty's territories; but his Britannic majeſty, though often invited, was too equitable to agree to any ſuch ſtipulation, and the king of Poland, though well inclined to it, did not dare to do it formally, before matters were more ripe for carrying it into execution. The court of Vienna, whoſe favourite meaſure it was, began not to diſcourage d'Aubeterre's inſinuations, and once more ſounded, though as uſual, in a very indirect manner, his Britannic majeſty with regard to the treaty of Peterſburgh. But meeting with no encouragement, a formal negotiation was entered into, and a treaty was concluded at Verſailles between the two courts, which at firſt had the appearance of being only defenſive on the part of France againſt Pruſſia, and on the part of Auſtria againſt his Britannic majeſty's dominions, but in the event proved offenſive as to all. This negotiation, however, was not ſo ſecretly carried on, as to be entirely concealed from the Engliſh miniſtry. The firſt intimation of it, that publicly appeared, was, when the marquis d'Aubeterre declared at Vienna, "That the warlike deſigns with which the king his maſter was charged, were ſufficiently confuted by his great moderation, of which all Europe

Practices of the French in Germany.

Geo. II. 1755. had manifold proofs. That his majeſty was perſuaded that groundleſs charge had given as much indignation to their Imperial majeſties as to himſelf; and that he was firmly reſolved to preſerve to Chriſtendom that tranquillity which it enjoyed through his fidelity, in religiouſly obſerving the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle: but that if his Britannic majeſty's allies took part in the war which is kindled in America, by furniſhing ſuccours to the Engliſh, his majeſty would be authorized to conſider and treat them as principals in it." France likewiſe made the like declaration to other courts.

The Imperial court refuſes auxiliaries to England.

His Britannic majeſty, on the other hand, eaſily perceiving the deſigns of France, required, as king of Great Britain, the auxilliaries ſtipulated to him by treaty from the empreſs queen. But theſe were expreſsly refuſed, under pretext, that the conteſt between him and France relating to America only, was not a caſus fœderis; though at the ſame time France made no difficulty of owning, that ſhe intended to make a powerful deſcent upon Great Britain early in the ſpring. The courts of Vienna and Verſailles having thus laid the foundations of an unnatural confederacy, into which they afterwards found means, but very ſecretly, to bring the empreſs of Ruſſia, made another attempt upon the court of Madrid, and repreſented the taking the two French men of war by Boſcawen's ſquadron, before any declaration of war was made, as a moſt unjuſtifiable proceeding, and threatening a diſſolution of all faith amongſt nations. This produced from ſir Benjamin Keene a ſtrong memorial, importing,

Memorial of ſir Benjamin Keene at the court of Spain.

"That it was well known, the French fleet carried troops, ammunition, and every thing neceſſary for defending the territories which had been by the French unjuſtly ſeized, and of which the Engliſh claim the property. That the rules of ſelf-defence, authorize people to render fruitleſs every attempt that may tend to prejudice them. That only this right had been made uſe of in taking the two French men of war, and that the diſtinction of place muſt be interpreted in favour of the Engliſh, ſeeing the two ſhips were taken on the coaſts of the countries where the conteſt aroſe." The French miniſter made an anſwer to this memorial, repreſenting the vaſt number of French ſhips that had been taken by the Engliſh in the European ſeas. But the court of Madrid was ſo far from being miſled by any thing he ſaid, that it gave his Britannic majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of its friendſhip, and of its intentions to take no part in the differences between him and France, but ſuch as ſhould be reconciliatory, and tending to reſtore the public tranquillity.

Matters

Matters being in this ſituation, his Britannic majeſty ſet out from Hanover on the 8th of September, and arrived at Kenſington the 15th. During his abſence, he had concluded a ſubſidiary treaty with the empreſs of Ruſſia, her tranſactions with the court of France having been ſo ſecret by paſſing through only that of Vienna, that his majeſty had not been informed of them. Add to this, that the project of the treaty of Verſailles not having come to his knowledge, or that of the king of Pruſſia, neither of them had as yet made any formal advances to the other. He knew, indeed, enough of the court of Vienna, to be ſenſible that he could expect no aſſiſtance from thence, in caſe his dominions were invaded; but this he attributed not ſo much to diſſimulation as weakneſs. It was, therefore, natural for him to apply to the court of Peterſburgh, with whom he had lately lived in great friendſhip; and her Ruſſian majeſty, with the greateſt cordiality, agreed to keep ready a body of 55,000 men upon the borders of Livonia, beſides 40 or 50 gallies, to be employed in his Britannic majeſty's ſervice; and the fifth article, which was the moſt remarkable, ran as follows: "In caſe the dominions of his Britannic majeſty in Germany ſhould be invaded on account of the intereſts or diſputes which regard his kingdoms, her Imperial majeſty declares, that ſhe will look upon ſuch an invaſion as a caſe of the alliance of 1742, and that the ſaid dominions ſhall be therein comprized in this reſpect."

Geo. II. 1755.

Return of the king to England.

Heads of the treaty with Ruſſia.

By the ſixth article it was ſtipulated, "that in conſideration of thoſe great ſuccours, as alſo of all the other extraordinary expences which the march and maintenance of troops in Livonia, with the artillery and its appurtenances, as well as the preparations of gallies, may have coſt, or ſhall ſtill coſt, his Britannic majeſty promiſes and engages to cauſe to be paid to her Imperial majeſty of all the Ruſſians, the ſum of 500,000l. ſterling per annum, to be reckoned from the day when the body of her troops ſhall have paſſed the frontiers of her dominions, in conſequence of the requiſition made by his majeſty the king of Great Britain."

The other articles of this treaty, ſtipulate the ſtricteſt correſpondence between the intereſt, troops, and operations of the two powers; and the convention was to ſubſiſt for four years, from the day on which the ratifications were to be exchanged. But to this convention was added a ſeperate and ſecret article, which, becauſe of the great diſputes it occaſioned, and the conſequences with which it was attended, is here inſerted. "Whereas her Imperial majeſty of all the

Geo. II. 1755. Ruſſians, has cauſed to be repreſented to his Britannic majeſty, that the march of the troops, as well infantry as cavalry, ſtipulated in the treaty ſigned this day, towards the frontiers of Livonia, as alſo the artillery, with what belongs thereto, with which her Imperial majeſty has charged herſelf, and the expence required to maintain them there four years, as well as the neceſſary preparations for keeping in readineſs the gallies during the ſaid term, have already coſt, and muſt ſtill coſt, great ſums of money, over and above what otherwiſe would have been neceſſary for the ordinary ſervice of theſe troops. In conſideration of what is above, and of the great utility of the remaining of ſuch a body of troops in the above-mentioned province during the term of four years will be of, and the better to enable her Imperial majeſty to ſupply the expence thereof, his Britannic majeſty has been pleaſed to engage himſelf to furniſh the ſuccour at the rate of 100,000l. ſterling per annum, payable each year in advance, to be reckoned from the day of the exchange of the ratifications, to the day that, on the requiſition of his Britannic majeſty, this body of Ruſſian troops ſhall go out of the dominions of her Imperial majeſty; for from that day, the above-ſaid ſuccour of 100,000 l. ſterling, is intirely to ceaſe, becauſe the payment of the ſum of 500,000l. ſterling per annum, which has been agreed upon by the ſixth article of the treaty, muſt commence, and be ſubſtituted in the room of it; ſo that whatever ſhall be found paid in advance at the rate of the above-ſaid 100,000l. ſterling per annum, ſhall be diſcounted and deducted from the payment of the 500,000l. ſterling. It being to be underſtood, that his Britannic majeſty ſhould be at liberty to ſend once in every year into the ſaid province of Livonia, a commiſſary to ſee and examine the number and condition of the ſaid troops. Moreover, what is ſtipulated in the ſixth article of the treaty ſigned this day with regard to the manner of paying the ſuccour in money, is expreſsly confirmed by this preſent article."

Treaty with Heſſe. His majeſty, about the ſame time, concluded another treaty with the elector of Heſſe Caſſel, for taking into his pay 8000 Heſſian troops, for which his Britannic majeſty promiſed to pay for every trooper or dragoon duly armed and mounted, 80 crowns; and for every foot ſoldier, 30 crowns banco. The ſixth article of the ſame treaty, ran as follows: "His majeſty the king of Great Britain engages to pay to the moſt ſerene landgrave, during the time that this treaty ſhall laſt, an annual ſubſidy, in manner and proportion following; that

that is to ſay, this ſubſidy ſhall commence from the day of the ſigning of this treaty, and from the time that ſhall elapſe, from that day from the time of the requiſition to put them in a condition to march, ſhall be paid at the rate of 15,000 crowns banco per annum, the crown reckoned at 53 ſols of Holland, or at 4s. 9d. Engliſh money; from the ſaid time of making the requiſition, to the day when the whole body, as well cavalry as infantry, ſhall be in the pay of Great Britain, the ſubſidy ſhall be augmented at the rate of 300,000 crowns; and during the whole time the ſaid corps ſhall be actually in the pay of his majeſty, the moſt ſerene landgrave ſhall enjoy an annual ſubſidy of 150,000 crowns aforeſaid. When the ſaid troops ſhall be ſent back by his Britannic majeſty, from the day of their return into the territories of the moſt ſerene highneſs, until the expiration of the treaty, the ſubſidy ſhall be again raiſed and continued on the foot of 300,000 crowns aforeſaid per annum; and the payment of this reſpective ſubſidy ſhall be made regularly, without diminution, and quarterly, in the city of Caſſel, into the military cheſt of his moſt ſerene landgrave, authorized for the receipt thereof." Geo. II. 1755.

By the ninth article of the ſame treaty, "his Britannic majeſty ſhall be at liberty to keep this body of troops in his ſervice the whole time of the duration of the treaty, and to employ it whereſoever he ſhall have occaſion for it, (provided it be not on board the fleet, or beyond the ſea) when once it has parted out of the territories of his moſt ſerene landgrave; excepting always for the defence of Great Britain and Ireland, in which caſe theſe troops ſhall enjoy fully, and without any reſtriction whatſoever, the ſame pay and emoluments as the Engliſh troops enjoy, as has been ſaid above. And when his majeſty the king of Great Britain ſhall think fit to ſend back the ſaid troops, he ſhall give notice thereof to his moſt ſerene highneſs three months before hand, and ſhall cauſe to be paid them one month's pay for their return, and furniſh them, gratis, the neceſſary tranſport veſſels."

The twelfth article was as follows: "His moſt ſerene highneſs, to give the fuller proof that he is deſirous to attach himſelf entirely to the intereſts of his Britannic majeſty, and to advance them with all his power, engages, moreover, to augment the ſaid corps with 4000 men more, viz. 700 horſe or dragoons, and 3300 foot, each regiment of infantry to have two field pieces, and conſequently to raiſe the ſaid corps to 12,000 men, as ſoon as his majeſty the king of Great Britain ſhall judge it neceſſary or advantageous for his ſervice;

Geo. II. 1755.

vice; the whole on the ſame conditions, in proportion, as have been ſtipulated in the preceding articles of this treaty for the body of 8000 men; and theſe 4000 men ſhall be put in a condition to be delivered, and to join the firſt body of 8000 men, within the ſpace of ſix months after the demand of them, which ſhall be made to him; his ſaid majeſty promiſing, on his part, to make good for theſe 4000 men, not only the remount and recruit money, after the rate of 80 crowns banco for each trooper or dragoon, and of 30 crowns banco for each foot ſoldier, but alſo to raiſe ſubſidies for this body of 12,000 men, from the day when his moſt ſerene highneſs ſhall be required to keep them in readineſs, to the ſum of 450,000 crowns banco per annum, ſo long as they ſhall be at the charge of the finances of his moſt ſerene highneſs; and to the ſum of 225,000 crowns banco annually, ſo long as they ſhall be in the pay of his Britannic majeſty. The pay and treatment, as well ordinary as extraordinary, as alſo all the emoluments for this corps of 12,000 men, being to be regulated on the ſame foot as is fixed by this treaty for the corps of the firſt 8000 men." By the next article, the treaty was to ſubſiſt for three years.

Oppoſition to them.

When thoſe treaties were made public, a ſtrong oppoſition was formed to them in parliament; and even ſome of the miniſtry, who were at the head of the finances, refuſed to anſwer the firſt draught for money that came over for Ruſſia, till the treaties, at leaſt, ſhould be approved of by parliament, which met the 13th of November.

Parliament ſits.

There was nothing very particular in his majeſty's ſpeech at the opening of the ſeſſion, but what the reader may meet with in the courſe of this hiſtory. He informed them, that he was willing to receive honourable and reaſonable terms of accommodation, but that none ſuch had been made by France; and that he had confined his views and operations, to hinder France from making new encroachments, or ſupporting thoſe already made; and, continued he, "To exert our right to a ſatisfaction for hoſtilities committed in time of profound peace, and to diſappoint ſuch deſigns as, from various appearances and preparations, there is reaſon to think have been formed againſt my kingdoms and dominions.—What other power can object to proceedings ſo abſolutely neceſſary to our defence and ſecurity? My good brother the king of Spain, ſees with concern theſe differences; and the part which he takes in the common welfare of Europe, makes him earneſtly wiſh the preſervation of the public tranquillity. He has alſo given aſſurances, that he will continue in the ſame pacific ſenti-

The king's ſpeech.

ſentiments." He likewiſe informed them of his treaties with Ruſſia and Heſſe Caſſel, which he ordered to be laid before both houſes. Geo. II. 1755.

When the lords returned to their houſe, upon the duke of Marlborough's motion, ſeconded by the earl of Marchmont, which was ſtrongly oppoſed by ſome other lords, they voted a very long and a very explicit addreſs of thanks to his majeſty, and which was thought to have been one of the moſt extraordinary ever preſented by that houſe. It was in ſubſtance as follows: "They thank him for his royal firmneſs, in not yielding to any terms of accommodation with France that were not reaſonable and honourable, and for exerting his royal care ſo powerfully in the protection of his colonies. They acknowledge his majeſty's wiſdom and goodneſs in increaſing his naval armaments, in augmenting his land forces with ſo much regard to the eaſe of his people, and in generouſly giving encouragement to that great body of his brave and faithful ſubjects, with which his American provinces happily abound, to exert their ſtrength on this important occaſion. They obſerve, with pleaſure, the pacific declaration of his Catholic majeſty, promiſe their moſt zealous and vigorous concurrence in this juſt and national cauſe, and to aſſiſt him in diſappointing or repelling all ſuch enterprizes as may be formed not only againſt his kingdoms, but alſo againſt any other of his dominions, although not belonging to the crown of Great Britain, in caſe they ſhould be attacked on account of the part which his majeſty has taken for maintaining the effectual intereſts of his kingdoms." The anſwer returned by his majeſty being equally remarkable, was as follows: Remarkable addreſs of the lords and commons.

"My lords, I give you my hearty thanks for this dutiful and affectionate addreſs. I ſee, with the greateſt ſatisfaction, the zeal you expreſs for my perſon and government, and for the true intereſt of your country, which I am determined to adhere to. The aſſurance which you give me for the defence of my territories abroad, are a ſtrong proof of your affection for me, and regard for my honour. Nothing ſhall divert me from purſuing thoſe meaſures which will effectually maintain the poſſeſſions and rights of my kingdoms, and procure reaſonable and honourable terms of accommodation."

The houſe of commons voted an addreſs equally dutiful and explicit, and received juſt ſuch another anſwer. But thoſe addreſſes did not paſs without ſtrong debates in both houſes, where there was a very ſtrange jumble of parties. It was generally thought, that the public buſineſs could not go on, unleſs another ſecretary of ſtate was appointed in the room Caſe of Mr. Fox being made ſecretary of ſtate.

Geo. II. 1755. room of ſir T. R——; becauſe though Mr. P—— and Mr. F—— agreed in nothing elſe, they united in oppoſing his meaſures, and their intereſt was ſo great in the houſe, and their abilities ſo univerſally acknowledged, though of very different kinds, that every queſtion the court got, was in fact loſing it. Both of them had already great places under the government, one of them being pay-maſter general, and the other ſecretary at war. But Mr. P—— had the advantage of having, in both houſes, many able men who were his friends or relations, particularly Mr. Legg, chancellor of the Exchequer, the earl Temple, and the Greenville family, and almoſt all of them enjoying places under the government likewiſe. It was a thing very unuſual in England, for gentlemen who held ſuch poſts, to oppoſe, upon every occaſion, a ſecretary of ſtate, who was ſuppoſed to know and to ſpeak his maſter's ſentiments. This, however, was the caſe, when the treaties of Ruſſia and Heſſe Caſſel were concluded; but to take off one part of the oppoſition, ſir T. R——, very wiſely and dutifully, the very ſecond day of the ſeſſion, reſigned the ſeals of ſecretary of ſtate into his majeſty's hands, who delivered them to Mr. Fox. Mr. Legge, about the ſame time, having declared himſelf againſt the new ſyſtem of foreign meaſures, was ſucceeded as chancellor of the Exchequer, and a lord of the treaſury, by ſir George Lyttleton; and lord Barrington ſucceeded Mr. Fox as ſecretary at war. But notwithſtanding all the oppoſition, which was very ſtrong, both without and within doors, which the two treaties met with, it plainly appeared, that the concluding them was very beneficial to Great Britain, and the moſt frugal meaſure that could have been taken in the then ſtate of affairs. It was not ſo much as denied, that his majeſty's firmneſs in rejecting, while he was abroad, all propoſals made by France that were prejudicial to the Britiſh intereſt, had raiſed the ſtorm that ſeemed ready to break upon his electoral dominions; and therefore it was but common juſtice for Great Britain to intereſt herſelf in their defence. There was no diviſion upon the addreſs in either houſe.

Alterations in the miniſtry.

Seamen, troops, ſubſidies and ſupplies voted.

On the 24th of November, 50,000 ſeamen, including 9138 marines, were voted for the ſervice of the year 1756, in the committee of ſupply, and agreed to by the houſe upon the report. After this, 100,000l. was voted as a ſubſidy to the empreſs of Ruſſia, 54,140l. was voted to the landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, and 10,000l. to the elector of Bavaria. But all this was not done without ſtrong debates; for when the treaties with Ruſſia and Heſſe Caſſel came to be conſidered,

conſidered, the referring them to a committee was oppoſed in both houſes; in the houſe of commons, they were approved of by a majority of 318 again 126; and in the houſe of lords, by 84 againſt 11. Geo. II. 1755.

While the national buſineſs was thus going on, not only the public of Great Britain, but the whole world, was thrown into the deepeſt conſternation by the dreadful earthquake which, on the 1ſt of November, ſhook all Spain and Portugal, and many other places of Europe, and laid the city of Liſbon in ruins. By the firſt accounts received in Great Britian of this calamity, there was great reaſon to apprehend, that the conſequences might affect even public credit, conſidering the vaſt intereſt which England and Engliſh merchants had in the Portugueſe trade. Affairs, however, did not prove to be ſo diſmal as they were repreſented at firſt. The loſs of the Engliſh was inconſiderable, their quarter and warehouſes having ſuffered the leaſt during the dreadful viſitation; and many of their merchants, with their families, were on that day (which was a holyday) at their country houſes, by which their perſons eſcaped the danger. But nothing could be more aweful, or more tremendous, than the aſpect of the city of Liſbon itſelf upon this mournful occaſion. A devouring conflagration, partly fortuitous or natural, and partly raiſed by villains, who enjoyed the general calamity by plundering their fellow creatures, attended the ſhocks, and finiſhed the ruin which they had begun. The number of perſons who loſt their lives, were variouſly reported, for ſome accounts made them far greater than they were; perhaps thoſe came neareſt the truth, who reckoned them at about 10,000. The principal ſhock began at three quarters paſt nine in the morning, and laſted near ſeven minutes, throwing down the moſt ſtately edifices in the city, particularly their religious houſes, which were there numerous and rich. Earthquake at Liſbon.

No ſooner did an authentic account of this terrible calamity reach England, than his majeſty ſent to both houſes, November 28, the following meſſage: "His majeſty having received, from his ambaſſador at Madrid, a certain account of the fatal and deplorable event that happened at Liſbon on the 1ſt inſtant by an earthquake, which laid waſte almoſt all the city, and deſtroyed many thouſands of the inhabitants, in conſequence whereof, thoſe who remain, muſt be reduced to the utmoſt diſtreſs. And his majeſty being moved with the greateſt concern for ſo good and faithful an ally as the king of Portugal, and with the utmoſt compaſſion for the diſtreſſes to which that city and kingdom muſt be reduced, The king's meſſage on the ſame.

wherein

Geo. II. 1756. wherein a great number of his majeſty's own ſubjects were reſident, and many more intereſted, recommends to the houſe of lords this dreadful and extenſive calamity, which cannot fail deeply to affect the hearts of all perſons who have any ſenſe of religion or humanity; and deſires the concurrence and aſſiſtance of the houſe of lords, in ſending ſuch ſpeedy and effectual relief, as may be ſuitable to ſo affecting and preſſing an exigency."

Relief voted by parliament to the Portugueſe.

This meſſage, to the honour of Britiſh humanity, being read in the houſe by the ſpeaker, produced an unanimous addreſs, thanking his majeſty for the ſame; and on the 8th of December, 100,000l. was voted in the committee of ſupply, for aſſiſting the diſtreſſed people of Portugal. As they ſtood in need of neceſſaries of life as well as the money, great part of the ſum was ſent in rice, corn, flour, a large quantity of beef from Ireland, and many other neceſſaries for their relief. This ſupply, which was ſent when the people of England were themſelves greatly diſtreſſed for want of corn, came very ſeaſonably to the Portugueſe; and that king ordered Mr. Caſtres, the Britiſh reſident at his court, to give the preference in the diſtribution to the Britiſh ſubjects who had ſuffered by the late earthquake. Accordingly, about a 30th part of the proviſions, and 2000l. in money, was ſet apart for that purpoſe; and his Portugueze majeſty returned his thanks, in very warm terms, to the Britiſh crown and nation.

On the 22d of January, the lord Barrington, ſecretary at war, preſented to the houſe an eſtimate for defraying the charge of ten new regiments of foot for the year 1756; and thoſe regiments were an addition to 34,263 land ſoldiers, who were voted for the ſervice of the ſame year. On the 28th of January, Mr. Fox preſented to the houſe the following meſſage from his majeſty: "G. R. His majeſty being ſenſible of the zeal and vigour with which his faithful ſubjects, of certain colonies in North America, have exerted themſelves in defence of his majeſty's juſt rights and poſſeſſions, recommends it to this houſe to take the ſame into their conſideration, and to enable his majeſty to give them ſuch aſſiſtance, as may be a proper reward and encouragement." This meſſage being referred to the committee of ſupply, they voted 115,000l. upon that account, and 5000l. to ſir William Johnſon in America, whom his majeſty had lately created a baronet for his good ſervices.

The report of the intention of France to invade Great Britain increaſing every day, it was thought abſolutely neceſſary to augment the army. It was with this view, that 92,000l. had

had been voted by the committee of ſupply for the ten new regiments of foot; and upon another eſtimate, preſented by lord Barrington, 49,628l. was voted for defraying the charges of eleven troops of light dragoons for 1756, and 81,178l. was voted for the charge of a regiment of foot to be raiſed in America for 1756. A great many other ſums, for defraying the expence of the navy and army, were likewiſe voted this year, as ſhall be taken notice of in their proper places. It is ſufficient to ſay here, that the total of ſupply granted this ſeſſion, amounted to no leſs than 7,229,117l. 4s. 6½d. Geo. II. 1756. Britiſh troops augmented. 1756.

Thus Great Britain armed herſelf, as if nothing but the formality of a declaration of war was wanting between her and France. The forms of her government did not ſuffer her to conſult ſecreſy in thoſe preparations, ſo much as was perhaps requiſite. The French had the advantage in that reſpect. That court, from the beginning of the differences between the two crowns, had formed the deſign of taking fort Philip and the iſland of Minorca from the Engliſh; and even towards the autumn of 1755, they began their preparations at Toulon for that purpoſe, and under various pretexts they continued them with wonderful ſecreſy and diligence. The Engliſh miniſtry, however, in December that year, had intelligence of their real deſign; but the ſituation of their naval affairs was ſuch, as prevented their immediately diſpatching a fleet ſufficient for blocking up that harbour. Admiral Boſcawen did not return from America to England, till the middle of November; and the ſhips he brought back with him, had moſt of their ſailors diſabled with ſickneſs, and both their hulks and riggings were ſo much damaged, that they required a thorough repair before they could put to ſea. 31 ſhips of the line had, that ſame autumn and winter, returned from cruiſes to the weſtward, in very little better condition; the weather during thoſe ſeaſons having been remarkably tempeſtuous. In the beginning of January this year, ſickneſs, diſorders, and deſertion increaſed ſo greatly amongſt the ſailors, and the high wages given by the merchants were ſo tempting, that notwithſtanding the admiralty employed their utmoſt, and, indeed, extraordinary, endeavours, no more than 25 ſhips of the line could be fitted out by the middle of January, and 13 of thoſe were ordered under Mr. Oſborne to accompany the convoys (which employed 3 more) of the outward-bound trade to a certain latitude. It was the 15th of February before admiral Oſborne's ſquadron returned, and in twelve days after, ſir Edward Hawke took upon him the command of a ſquadron of 14 ſhips of the line, 3 frigates, and a ſloop, Caſe of Minorca being attacked by France. Difficulties of the Engliſh admiralty.

Geo. II. 1756.

ſloop, to attend ſome Eaſt-India ſhips into the ocean, and then to cruiſe off Breſt; but the tempeſtuouſneſs of the weather, did not ſuffer him to ſail before the 12th of March.

Notwithſtanding thoſe difficulties and diſcouragements, it had been eaſy for the fleet of England to have blocked up the harbour of Toulon, and to have deſtroyed any number of French ſhips that ſhould have attempted to ſail againſt Minorca, had it not been that France, at this time, had at Breſt, and the other ports of the ocean, a fleet of near 40 capital ſhips, beſides others from 40 to 50 guns, and had marched down great bodies of land troops to their maritime provinces oppoſite to Great Britain. The Britiſh miniſtry receiving certain intelligence of this, and that the French had a great number of ſmall ſhips and other craft in their ports, which they could employ as tranſports, debated amongſt themſelves to what ſervice the preference ſhould be given, to guard the coaſts of Great Britain, or to block up Toulon, by ſending a ſquadron immediately into the Mediterranean. The former took place, and it was found abſolutely neceſſary, that no fewer than 49 ſhips, great and ſmall, ſhould be employed in home ſervices in March this year.

A ſquadron fitted out for the relief of Minorca.

The great dread, therefore, of an intended invaſion (which ſeemed highly probable) joined to a belief that the French would not be able to equip at Toulon above ſix or eight ſhips of the line, cauſed the miniſtry to order only ten men of war to the Mediterranean. This ſquadron, no doubt, would have been made ſtronger, had it not been for want of certain intelligence of what was doing at Toulon.

Byng ſails to relieve it.

The command in this important ſervice was given to admiral Byng. He was ſon of ſir George Byng, afterwards viſcount Torrington, one of the beſt ſeamen England ever bred; and the admiral had himſelf had long experience in the navy. His abilities were unqueſtionable, and he had riſen to the rank he then held, without any reproach. He received his commiſſion the 17th of March, and on the 20th came to Portſmouth. Notwithſtanding all poſſible diſpatch, he was, by various unforeſeen accidents, detained there ſeventeen days. April the 1ſt he received his laſt inſtructions from the admiralty, dated the 30th of March. By theſe he was ordered, among other things, if he found, when he came to Gibraltar, a French ſquadron had ſailed through the Straits, (probably for North America) to detach ſo many ſhips under admiral Weſt to join thoſe that were at, or going to, Halifax. But if no French ſquadron had paſſed the Straits, he was to go on inſtantly to Minorca; and to exert

exert his utmoſt vigilance in protecting that iſland, and alſo Gibraltar, from any hoſtile attempt. Purſuant to his orders, Byng ſailed from St. Helens the 6th of April, with the ten following ſhips: Ramillies, Buckingham, Culloden, Captain, Revenge, Lancaſter, Trident, Intrepid, Kingſton, and Defiance. Geo. II. 1756.

How miſtaken the notion was of the weakneſs of the Toulon ſquadron, ſoon after but too viſibly appeared. For it was found, that Galiſſoniere, with twelve ſhips of the line and five frigates, with a large number of tranſports, having on board above 16,000 men, had ſailed from Toulon about a week after the departure of Byng, and inſtead of ſteering for North America, had landed the troops at Minorca, and inveſted fort St. Philip, in ſpite of the oppoſition given them by general Blakeney. Admiral Byng, after a tedious voyage, occaſioned by calms and contrary winds, did not arrive at Gibraltar till the 2d of May. There he received the news of the deſcent upon Minarca from captain Edgecomb, who had (by a fortunate neglect of the French) eſcaped out of the harbour of Toulon with a ſmall ſquadron under his command, whilſt they were landing on the other ſide of the iſland. The French fail againſt it.

While the people of England were in the utmoſt anxiety about the event of Mr. Byng's expedition, the whole ſyſtem of affairs in Europe took a new and a ſudden turn. His Pruſſian majeſty, to the great advantages he had from nature and induſtry, had acquired the beſt intelligence of any prince of his time; and by means of that, he found, that a ſecret agent, who called himſelf Douglaſs, had been employed for ſome time at the court of Peterſburgh, on the part of France, to co-operate with the Auſtrian miniſter at the ſame court, in bringing the empreſs of Ruſſia into their meaſures, and in which they ſucceeded perfectly well. It was eaſy for his Pruſſian majeſty to perceive, that if the Ruſſians, in the pay of Great Britain, ſhould once get footing in Germany, his ſituation muſt be very precarious; and the rather, as her czariſh majeſty had declared, ſhe was ready to ſend 20,000 more troops to the aſſiſtance of Great Britain than had been ſtipulated. His Pruſſian majeſty therefore publickly and ſolemnly proteſted againſt the introduction of any foreign troops into Germany, and that he would draw the ſword againſt the French, as readily as againſt any others. Conduct of the king of Pruſſia.

His Pruſſian majeſty's ſituation in Germany, with regard to the Ruſſians, was now the very ſame as that of his Britannic majeſty with regard to the French. Though the lat- His and the king of Great Britain's ſituation.

ter

Geo. II. 1756. ter ſtill continued to preſerve the appearance of a good footing with the court of Berlin, yet nothing was to be expected from their friendſhip; and though her Ruſſian majeſty appeared ready to fulfill her engagements with Great Britain, yet the experiment was too dangerous to be made, conſidering her growing connections with France. As nothing but neceſſity had ever induced his Britannic majeſty to apply for Ruſſian auxiliaries, it was natural for him to fall in with the views of his nephew; and they had now but one common cauſe, the prevention of foreign troops getting footing in Germany. A convention, therefore, early this year, was entered into between them, the ſubſtance of which was as follows: "His majeſty, the king of Great Britain, and the king of Pruſſia, having maturely conſidered, that the differences which have lately ariſen in America, may eaſily extend much farther, and even reach Europe, having moreover always the welfare and ſafety of Germany, their common country, much at heart, and being extremely deſirous to maintain her peace and tranquillity, have, as the moſt neceſſary means of obtaining this ſalutary end, agreed upon between themſelves, and cauſed to be ſigned on the 16th of January laſt by their miniſters, a convention of neutrality, which purely relates to Germany, and tends to offend no perſon whatever. By this convention, their majeſties reciprocally bind themſelves not to ſuffer foreign troops, of any nation whatſoever, to enter Germany, or paſs through it, during the troubles aforeſaid, and the conſequences that may reſult from them; but to oppoſe the ſame in all caſes with their utmoſt might, in order to ſecure Germany from the calamities of war, maintain her fundamental laws and conſtitutions, and preſerve her peace uninterrupted; which is the ſole object of the aforeſaid convention. Their majeſties, moreover, having ſeized this favourable opportunity to adjuſt the differences that have ſubſiſted between them with relation to the Sileſia loan, due to the ſubjects of his Britannic majeſty, and the indemnification claimed by the ſubjects of his Pruſſian majeſty, for their loſſes by ſea during the late war, the two high powers having happily ſettled theſe two points to their mutual ſatisfaction; ſo that the attachment laid ſome time ago on the ſaid debt, will be taken off, as ſoon as the ratification of the above-ſaid convention of neutrality for Germany is arrived."

Subſtance of a treaty between them,

It is laid before the parliament.

This treaty being afterwards brought into a regular form, it was, upon the 11th of May, together with a ſeparate and ſubſidiary article, preſented to the houſe of commons by Mr Fox

be the protector of Bremen and Verden, ſigns a convention of neutrality for Hanover with the duke de Richlieu, the French general, who was now in full poſſeſſion of that electorate.—The fleet deſtined againſt Rochfort ſails from Spithead, and the place of deſtination being a ſecret, the expectations of the public are raiſed very high. Geo. II. 1757.

30. The French violate the convention ſigned at Cloſter-ſeven with the duke of Cumberland, and order the magiſtracy of Hanover to deliver in exact liſts of the revenues, caſualities, and other effects of that electorate.

The king of Pruſſia diſcovers a ſecret correſpondence carried on at Dreſden againſt him, and ſeveral perſons are apprehended on that account.—The public are very impatient at lord Loudon and admiral Holbourne, having made no attempt of any conſequence in America.

October 7. An account comes, that the fleet under Sir Edward Hawke, and the land forces under Sir John Mordaunt, conſiſting of between 6 and 7000 men, are returned to St. Helen's from Baſque road, without having effected a landing, or attempting it; and that all they had done was their demoliſhing a fort upon the little iſle of Aix, which was effected by captain Howe in the Magnanime, and that the whole works of the ſaid fort had been blown up.

11. The duke of Cumberland returns from Germany.

22. Sir Edward Hawke and admiral Boſcawen ſail upon a new expedition.

November 4. The city of London is very uneaſy at the miſcarriage of the late expedition, and inclines to petition his majeſty that it may be inquired into. But the lord mayor declaring that he had received a meſſage from court, that an inquiry was immediately directed by his majeſty, the motion for the addreſs was withdrawn, which was conſidered as a great inſtance of the city's regard for the adminiſtration.

8. His majeſty ordered a board of general officers, conſiſting of the duke of Marlborough, lord George Sackville, and general Waldgrave, to inquire into Sir John Mordaunt's conduct during the late expedition, and to report the ſame. They accordingly ſat for ſome days at the judge-advocate's houſe in Privy Garden, and the reſult of their report was, that Sir John ſhould be tried by a court-martial.

An account comes of a prodigious hurricane in North America, which had driven admiral Holbourne and his ſhips from his ſtation off Louiſburgh, and that great loſs had followed thereupon.

17. An account comes, that the king of Pruſſia, on the 5th of this month, had attacked the combined army of the French and Auſtrians under the prince de Soubiſe at Roſbach, and gained a compleat victory over them.—This victory was followed with many advantages; but, in the mean time, Schweidnitz ſurrendered to the Auſtrians, and count Daun defeated the prince of Bevern near Breſlau; and in a very unaccountable manner, the prince himſelf being taken priſoner.

This month his Britannic majeſty's miniſter at the diet of the empire, preſented a memorial in vindication of his maſter's conduct, in which his majeſty abſolutely diſclaims his having any knowledge of, or being any way conſenting to, the king of Pruſſia's invaſion of Saxony.

The French are, under the colour of the late neutrality, guilty of the moſt ſhocking outrages in the electorate of Hanover, as they had violated every article of the ſame; by which his Britannic majeſty is furniſhed with very juſtifiable reaſons for re-commencing hoſtilities.

30. An account came of the queen of Poland's death, by which the courts of Verſailles and Vienna took occaſion to throw out ſome inſinuations againſt his Pruſſian majeſty's humanity. About the ſame time the army of the empire ſeparated from that of France.—This month riots, on account of the dearth of corn, were ſtill continued.

December. His Britannic majeſty publiſhes his motives for re-commencing hoſtilities againſt the French in Hanover, (on account of their breach of the late convention) under prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick.

5. The king of Pruſſia defeated count Daun at Liſſa; and it was reckoned about that time, that there were upwards of 20,000 Auſtrian priſoners in the Pruſſian camp.—Marſhal Richlieu, the French general, alarmed by the motions of the Hanoverian army under prince Ferdinand, threatens the deſtruction of all that electorate with fire and ſword; and burns the ſuburbs of Zell, and the bridge of the Aller. Thoſe hoſtilities being againſt the laws of war, obliges prince Ferdinand, who goes on victoriouſly in clearing the electorate of the French, to make repreſentations to him upon ſo inhuman a proceeding.

A great uneaſineſs had for ſome time prevailed in England about a loan that was negotiated here for France. Upon which the lords of the treaſury publiſhed an advertiſement, promiſing a reward of 200 l. upon the diſcovery of any perſon concerned in ſuch a loan.

8. Admiral

8. Admiral Holbourne arrived in the Newark from Ha- Geo. II.
lifax, having left lord Colvill in thoſe ſeas with ſeven ſail of 1757.
the line.

9. A bill paſſes for preventing the exportation of corn, and for preventing the diſtilling of grain for twelve months, through both houſes of parliament, which met on the 1ſt of this month.

10. The duke of Cumberland, upon his arrival from Germany, reſigns all his military commands, and the firſt regiment of guards is conferred upon Sir *John* Ligonier, now made viſcount Ligonier of the kingdom of Ireland.—The county of Kent having been exceedingly oppreſſed with ſoldiers, more particularly from September 1755, to March 1756, his majeſty, out of his great love and affection to his people, tranſmitted the ſum of 3000 l. to be divided amongſt all the innholders.

21ſt. The king of Pruſſia retakes Breſlau, which had fallen into the hands of the Auſtrians upon the defeat of the prince of Bevern.

28. Princeſs Carolina Elizabeth, third daughter to his Britannic majeſty, dies after a long and tedious illneſs.

January 7, 1758. Seventy ſailors forced their way from the Namur in Portſmouth harbour into the dock, and ſet out for London, to lay their grievances before the lords of the admiralty; but their conduct being looked upon as a mutiny, fifteen of them were ſent back in irons, tried and condemned, by a court-martial on board the Newark, to ſuffer death. On the day appointed for their execution, all of them were brought up, and their halters fixed, when they were acquainted that only one of them was to die, the reſt of them being pardoned by his majeſty; but that they muſt draw lots, to fix upon the man who was to die. The fatal lot fell upon one Matthew M'Can, who was accordingly hanged.

13. Captain Lockhart, of the Tartar man of war, receives a magnificent preſent of plate from the underwriters and merchants of the city of London, conſiſting of a cup and ſalver, curiouſly chaſed and embоſſed, for his ſignal ſervices in ſupporting the trade, by deſtroying the French privateers in the year 1757. He was likewiſe preſented by the merchants of Briſtol with a gold cup of the value of 100 l.

14. An account comes, that his majeſty's ſhips the Edinburgh, Dreadnought, and Auguſta, having blocked up the harbour of Cape Francois for ſome time, the French ſquadron there failed to drive them off the coaſt, but were bravely re-

Geo. II. 1758. pulſed, after a ſmart engagement, in which captain Forreſt, of the Auguſta, greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf.

18. His majeſty ſent a meſſage to the houſe of commons by Mr. ſecretary Pitt, informing them, that his majeſty having ordered the army, formed laſt year in his electoral dominions, to be put again into motion from the 28th of November laſt, and to act with the utmoſt vigour againſt the common enemy, in concert with his good brother and ally the king of Pruſſia; and the exhauſted and ruined ſtate of that electorate, and of its revenues, having rendered it impoſſible for the ſame to maintain and keep together that army, until the further neceſſary charge thereof, as well as the more particular meaſures now concerting for the effectual ſupport of the king of Pruſſia, can be laid before the houſe: his majeſty relying on the conſtant zeal of his faithful commons for the ſupport of the proteſtant religion, and of the liberties of Europe, againſt the dangerous deſigns of France and her confederates, finds himſelf, in the mean time, under an abſolute neceſſity of recommending to the houſe the ſpeedy conſideration of ſuch a preſent ſupply, as may enable his majeſty, in this critical exigency, to ſubſiſt and keep together the ſaid army.

In conſequence of this meſſage, 100,000 l. was unanimouſly granted to be taken immediately out of the ſupplies of the laſt year, unapplied, and to be remitted with all poſſible diſpatch.

21. The duke of Bedford, lord lieutenant of Ireland, iſſues orders to the Britiſh officers who are recruiting in that kingdom without the knowledge of the government, to deſiſt, and to diſcharge the recruits they had raiſed.

28. An account comes, that marſhal Richlieu had been recalled from his command in Germany, which was beſtowed upon the prince de Clermont; ſo that that army had three generals within the ſpace of twelve months. Richlieu's diſgrace was owing to the bare-faced rapaciouſneſs of that general, which was become intolerable, even to his brother officers, and was become odious to the court of France. In the mean while, the French were every where diſlodged in the electorate of Hanover, by prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, his Britannic majeſty's general; and the young prince of Brunſwick, though not above twenty years of age, took Hoya, an important fortreſs, by a conduct which would have done honour to a veteran commander. The French, about this time, poſſeſs themſelves of Bremen.

30. An

30. An account comes, that a large body of Arabs, who had been diſguſted with the conduct of the new ſultan at Conſtantinople, had deſtroyed a great caravan returning from Mecca, conſiſting, as is ſaid, of upwards of 50,000 perſons. Geo. II. 1758.

During this month, the Engliſh privateers were very ſucceſsful againſt the French trade. This month it appears that the French court had a deſign to appropriate to themſelves the whole revenues of the electorate of Hanover; and one Jean Faidy was appointed the French king's receiver there, with an arbitrary power over the whole electorate, as appeared from his moſt Chriſtian majeſty's commiſſion to him, which was publiſhed.

The duke of Randan, the French governor of Hanover, obtains great reputation and honour by his humanity in that poſt. But prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick publiſhes the following order: "All officers, magiſtrates, and other regents "of his Britannic majeſty's German dominions, are enjoined "by theſe preſents, not to execute any orders from the gene-"rality or intendancy of the French, but to ſend them to me "immediately, and to ſecure the bearers as ſpies, that they "may be treated in a manner ſuitable to their demerits."

February 6. Great diſorders and incroachments prevailing in Ireland through the aſſurance of people of low birth and fortunes taking upon themſelves the deſignations of arms and titles of perſons of quality, and deſcendants from the antient nobility of that kingdom; the houſe of peers orders, "That the king at arms, attended by his proper officers, do blot out and deface all enſigns of honour borne by ſuch perſons as have no legal title thereto upon their carriages, plate, and furniture, and to make regular returns of their proceedings therein to the clerk of parliament."

19. Admiral Boſcawen ſailed from St. Helens in his majeſty's ſhip Namur of 90 guns, with the Royal William of 84, Princeſs Amelia of 80, Lancaſter of 74, Trent of 30, Shannon of 36, Gramont of 24, and the Ætna and Lightning fireſhips; the Invincible, of 74 guns, of the above fleet, miſſing her ſtays, ran aſhore on a flat between the Dane and the horſe of Langdon harbour to the eaſt of St. Helens; and notwithſtanding all the aſſiſtance that could be given her, was loſt.

28. The Foudroyant French man of war, which is twelve foot longer than an Engliſh firſt rate, and the Orpheus of 64 guns, being part of a French ſquadron ſent to re-inforce monſieur de la Clue, who was blocked up in the bay of Cadiz, were taken by admiral Oſborn's ſquadron. The Foudroyant

Geo. II. 1758. was taken by captain Gardiner in the Monmouth, who loſt his life. The marquis Du Queſne, the French admiral, was taken on board the Foudroyant.

March 14. The French continue to retreat out of the electorate of Hanover, and prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick to advance with his right wing on one ſide of the Weſer, and his left upon the other. At laſt the French evacuate the whole electorate excepting Minden, which though defended by a garriſon of 4000 men, is obliged to ſurrender.

18. An Engliſh ſquadron of ſhips, under commodore Holmes, having cut off the communication between the town of Embden and the mouth of the river Ems, the French garriſon in the town, conſiſting of 4000 men, evacuated the place, which the commodore immediately took poſſeſſion of, with ſome of the enemy's ſhips. This important acquiſition was a very agreeable ſurprize to the people of England, who did not dream of any deſign of that kind.

28. Several of the late rioters are tried and condemned. But great lenity is ſhewn where there appears no prepenſe malice. Some of them, who obſtructed the execution of the militia-act, are hanged.

April 11. The temporary bridge, which was built over the Thames whilſt London bridge was repairing, is burnt down by certain malicious perſons, who never could be diſcovered, though his majeſty offered his pardon to any of the accomplices, and the city 200l. to any who would diſcover the perpetrators.

A new miniſter, baron Kniphauſen, arrives from the king of Pruſſia.

21. 15,000l. granted by parliament for repairing the damage done by the late fire at London bridge. The houſe of commons reſolve the ſame day, that 4,500,000l. be raiſed by annuities at the rate of 3½ per Cent. for 24 years, the intereſt to commence from July 5; and 500,000l. by way of lottery at 3 per cent.

29. An account comes, that Schweidnitz is taken by the king of Pruſſia, after a blockade which coſt the enemy 3500 men. The garriſon conſiſted of 230 officers, and 3200 private men.

Monſieur D'Ache is beat by admiral Pocock in the Eaſt-Indies.

May 1. Senegal in Africa is taken by the Engliſh.

3. The king of Pruſſia reſolves to tranſlate the theatre of the war in Germany to Moravia, a freſh country. He accordingly makes himſelf maſter of all the paſſes and poſts

of

of ſtrength in the entrance to that country, and forms the ſiege of Olmutz, a very ſtrong city. Count Daun wiſely takes poſt with his army ſo as not to be attacked, but harraſſes the Pruſſians at the ſiege in ſuch a manner, that by cutting off their convoys, particularly a capital one coming from Tropau, he obliges the king of Pruſſia to raiſe the ſiege with great loſs, who arrives at Koniſgratz in Bohemia, from whence he diſlodges 7000 Auſtrians. Geo. II. 1758

10. Upon enquiry it was found, that ſince the charity of the Foundling Hoſpital had been made general by a parliamentary proviſion, about 6000 infants had been taken in annually, near one third of whom had died by ill uſage.

13. Lord Anſon appointed commander of a fleet fitting out for ſea, which raiſes great expectations in the public.—The St. George, of 80 guns, which was rear admiral Broderick's ſhip, is burnt in her voyage to the Mediterranean, the admiral narrowly eſcaping by ſwimming.—Captain Fawlkner, in the Windſor man of war, takes a French ſtore-ſhip of 400 tuns, laden with proviſions and arms for Quebec.—Captain Dennis, in the Dorſetſhire, after a vigorous engagement, takes the Raiſonable, a French man of war of 64 guns and 630 men, in her voyage to Canada.

17. Great preparations are making, both by ſea and land, for a new expedition againſt France under the duke of Marlborough; and flat-bottom'd boats of a new conſtruction, for the more commodious landing the troops, are built and launched.

20. Commodore Keppel's ſquadron brings in four French ſhips, part of ſeventeen which had ſailed from Bourdeaux with proviſions and ſtores for Canada.

30. An account comes, that commodore Tyrrel, with the Buckingham and Cambridge men of war, had taken and levelled with the ground a ſmall fort in St. Ann's bay in the iſland of Martinico, and deſtroyed three privateers, and converted the fourth into a tender.

June 1. Prince Ferdinand not being able to prevent the French retreating over the Rhine, paſſes that river himſelf, that he may oblige the prince de Soubiſe to abandon his expedition againſt Heſſe Caſſel. The French continue to retire before prince Ferdinand, who, by the moſt maſterly conduct, defeats them at Crevelt, and makes himſelf maſter of Duſſeldorp, and other important paſſes upon the Rhine.

Florence Henſey, M. D. and a native of Ireland, is tried at the bar of the King's Bench for holding an illegal correſpondence with his majeſty's enemies; and being, after a long

Geo. II. 1758. trial, convicted upon the cleareſt evidence, he received ſentence of death. But being afterwards reſpited from time to time, he at laſt received a pardon for his life, on condition of his tranſporting himſelf out of his majeſty's dominions.

This month the famous Thurot appeared off the Scotch coaſt in the Marſhal Belliſle privateer, and made a vaſt number of captures; but diſtinguiſhed himſelf greatly by the generoſity and humanity with which he treated his priſoners.

June 2. Fort St. David's in the Eaſt-Indies is taken by the French.

Two ſquadrons, a great one under lord Anſon, and a ſmaller one under commodore Howe, with ſixteen battalions and nine troops of light horſe on board, commanded by the duke of Marlborough, ſailed from Portſmouth. Lord Anſon's ſquadron ſeparates from the other, and bears off to the bay of Biſcay, to obſerve a French ſquadron in Breſt, and to ſpread the alarm along the coaſt of France.

5. The Britiſh troops under the duke of Marlborough land at Cancalle, in Cancalle bay, not far from St. Malo's.

8. After ſecuring a retreat to Cancalle, they march towards St. Malo's; but finding themſelves too weak to attack it, they burn about 100 ſail of ſhipping, many of whom were privateers, that lay under the walls of the city, beſides a vaſt number of ſtores and magazines, without the leaſt oppoſition from the enemy.

12. They re-embark at Cancalle, reconnoitre the town of Granville, and attempt a landing at Cherburg; but the army being ſickly by its long confinement on board the ſhips, and proviſions falling ſhort, the fleet returns to England.

The Engliſh troops are at this time before Louiſburgh, in the iſland of Cape Breton. Admiral Boſcawen commands the fleet, and directs all the naval operations; and general Amherſt commands the land troops. Their landing was effected with great difficulty. At laſt the ſiege was regularly formed, and being carried on with great intrepidity by the Engliſh, (Wolfe, a young general, having diſtinguiſhed himſelf greatly in it) on the 27th of this month Louiſburgh ſurrendered. The garriſon, irregulars, and ſeamen, amounting to 5637, were made priſoners of war.

16. The ſalaries of the judges of England are augmented, and the ſum of 11,450l. is appropriated by the commons, to be given to his majeſty, for that purpoſe.

22. A very hot preſs takes place upon the river Thames.

July

July 5. General Ambercromby, commander in chief of the Britiſh forces in America, embarks upon lake George with about 16,000 troops, regulars and provincials, with a large artillery, and having effected a landing, on the Geo. II. 1758.

8. They appear before Ticonderago; but in their march they loſe the brave lord Howe, who is killed by the French. A fatal reſolution is taken to attack the French intrenchments before Ticonderago, before the heavy artillery can be brought up. The attempt, notwithſtanding the courage and intrepidity of the Britiſh army, was found impracticable; and after loſing near 2000 men, they were obliged to retire next day to their old camp to the ſouthward of Lake George.

24. Prince Edward having recovered from a ſlight indiſpoſition, embarks on board the Eſſex, commodore Howe's ſhip, at Portſmouth, to proceed on a new expedition intended againſt France, to be commanded by general Bligh.

Auguſt 1. A loan of 200,000 l. to his majeſty, as elector of Hanover, was negotiated in London, and the ſubſcription was immediately filled up at the bank.

The fleet ſails from St. Helens, and in a few days comes to anchor before Cherburg; and by the excellent diſpoſitions made by commodore Howe, the French, by the fire from his fleet, are kept within their intrenchments.

7. The Engliſh, who were no more than 6000, having landed without any material loſs, advance againſt Cherburg, which they entered without oppoſition, and deſtroyed the baſon and fortifications there, which had been made at a moſt ſtupendous expence by the court of France; the veſſels in the harbour are all burnt, hoſtages were taken for the contributions, and the army, after remaining ten days unmoleſted in France, reimbark.

Great diſorders and ſome pyracies are committed on the ſeas; the ſhip in which was the king of Spain's miniſter to the court of Denmark, is boarded and plundered; and the lords of the admiralty offered 500 l. reward to any one who would diſcover the pyrates.

8. Advice comes, that an unſucceſsful attempt had been made on the iſland of Goree, near the river Senegal, by the Engliſh; and that

The Monmouth, captain Harvey, had burnt a French man of war of 40 guns in the iſland of Malta, of which the Malteſe complained greatly.

About this time M. de Chevert, one of the ableſt generals of the French in Germany, in endeavouring to render the junction of the Engliſh there with the Hanoverians impracticable,

Geo. II. 1758. ticable, is himſelf defeated by baron Imhoff, the Hanoverian general, at Meer, after which he effected his junction with Prince Ferdinand.

11. About 10,000 manufacturers in and about Mancheſter, combine together to raiſe the price of their wages by force, and are guilty of prodigious diſorders, ſuch as writing incendiary letters. Lord Mansfield adapts his charge to the grand jury upon the occaſion; upon which they find bills of indictment againſt ſixteen or ſeventeen of the rioters.

27. General Abercromby, after his repulſe at Ticonderago, diſpatches about 3000 provincials againſt Fort Frontiniac, under colonel Bradſtreet. This fort ſtood at the communication of the lake Ontario, with the river St. Lawrence, which in ſome manner it commanded, and was taken by the Engliſh without any loſs.

A prayer of thankſgiving was uſed in all churches and chapels throughout all England, on the taking of Louiſburgh.

A guard is poſted to prevent the firing of London bridge, which had been attempted afreſh.

This month an act is carried into execution with great ſucceſs, and to the vaſt relief of the ſubjects, permitting the importation of ſalted beef, pork, and butter from Ireland into England for a limited time.

30. An attempt is made to ſet fire to his majeſty's ſtore-houſes at Deptford, by which an immenſe quantity of cordage, and all kinds of naval ſtores, muſt have been conſumed, to the great detriment of the nation. The commiſſioners of the navy offered a reward of 500 l. for diſcovering the incendiaries.

Fort Frontiniac is demoliſhed; but many were of opinion that it ought to have been kept and garriſoned. Nine armed ſloops were taken and burnt here, and vaſt magazines of proviſions.

September 5. The king having ordered the French colours that were taken at Louiſburgh to be depoſited in the cathedral of St. Paul's London, a moſt magnificent proceſſion of horſe and foot grenadiers marched from Kenſington to St. Paul's with the trophies.

9. The Engliſh fleet, after leaving Cherburg, ſails towards St. Malo's, and land the troops in the bay of St. Lunar, where the coaſt was very rocky; for which reaſon the commodore moved up to the bay of St. Cas, about nine miles to the weſtward. The Engliſh, who in fact had fixed upon no plan of operations, nor had any practicable object for them as they could not take St. Malo's, marched to the village of Matignon, all the way ſkirmiſhing with the enemy upon their

their flanks. By this time, the duke d'Aiguillon, governor of Britanny, having got together twelve battalions and ſix ſquadrons of regular troops, and two of militia, advanced againſt the Engliſh, who were now marching with all expedition towards St. Cas, in order to reimbark. But before the reimbarkation could be totally effected, the French had time to attack the rear diviſion of the Engliſh, conſiſting of all the grenadiers of the army, and the firſt regiment of the guards. Theſe attacked the French with great vigour, and were ſeconded by a fire of great and ſmall arms from the fleet. At firſt the French gave no quarter, and the Engliſh ammunition failing them, they were obliged to give way to the ſuperiority of numbers. General Dury, Sir John Armitage, member of parliament for York city, a young gentleman of a large fortune, and great expectation, with other perſons of rank, were here either killed or drowned in making their way to their boats, which commodore Howe, having himſelf ſet the example, ordered to be rowed as near the ſhore as poſſible to carry off the men; the fleet waſting its fire, the French gave quarter. By this affair, about 600 Britiſh were killed and wounded, and 400 taken priſoners. Geo. II. 1758.

14. His majeſty's ſhips Kingſton and Burford arrived at Plymouth from Louiſburgh with the tranſports, having the garriſon on board.

16. The cannon and mortars taken at Cherburg, all of them of a prodigious ſize, and moſt ſuperbly ornamented, paſſed by his majeſty as they ſet out from Hyde Park, guarded by matroſſes, in proceſſion to the Tower, where they arrived about four o'clock in the afternoon.

20. The duke of Marlborough dies at Munſter in Germany.

25. New flat-bottom'd boats are ordered to be built, to replace thoſe deſtroyed at St. Cas.

The Ruſſians having penetrated into the new Marche of Brandenburg, and having laid ſiege to Cuſtrin, at no great diſtance from Berlin itſelf, that city was reduced to the moſt deplorable condition by the red-hot balls and artillery of the beſiegers, when the king of Pruſſia, after effecting one of the fineſt retreats ever known, firſt from Moravia, then through Bohemia, re-entered Sileſia, and advanced with wonderful rapidity to raiſe the ſiege of Cuſtrin; the whole march being performed in fifty-ſix days. Upon his approach the Ruſſians raiſed the ſiege, and a moſt bloody battle was fought at the village of Zorndorff. At firſt the Pruſſian infantry was broken; but the Ruſſian generals not knowing how to improve this advantage,

Geo. II. advantage, the king again formed his army, and defeated
1758. the Ruſſians with a horrible ſlaughter. Their loſs was computed about 21,529 men, and that of the Pruſſians at [illegible]. Both ſides claimed the honour of the victory, but the conſequence plainly ſhewed that it belonged to the Pruſſians; for count Daun's ſchemes were thereby defeated, the Ruſſians evacuated the Pruſſian dominions, and his majeſty entered Saxony, joined his brother prince Henry, and obliged marſhal Daun to retire from the neighbourhood of Dreſden, and to fall back to Zittau.

In like manner the Swedes, whoſe motions were directed by thoſe of the Ruſſians, retreated out of the Pruſſian dominions with precipitation.

28. A decree iſſues from the aulic council of the empire, enjoining all directors of circles, imperial towns, and noblemen of the empire, to ſend to Vienna liſts of thoſe who adhered to the elector of Brandenburg's rebellion, that they may be puniſhed in honours, bodies and goods. The Imperialiſts, in this decree, had the inſolence to name the elector of Hanover.

30. Prince Soubiſe attacks general Oberg, with a much ſuperior number, at Sanwerhagen, and defeats him; but by the good diſpoſitions that were made by prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, the French gained but little by this victory.

The malecontents of Corſica, under their general Paoli, after gaining ſeveral advantages, blockade Baſtia with 15,000 men.—Great complaints this month were made by the Spaniards of the Engliſh privateers ſeizing their ſhips, and of the Engliſh againſt the French for the bad uſage of their priſoners.

October 1. His Portugueze majeſty, in returning out of the country, is ſet upon in a loanſome place near Belem with fire-arms, and is dangerouſly wounded. This attempt was for ſome time kept ſecret, but was afterwards attended with terrible conſequences to the perpetrators.

The forming the militia in England makes but a ſlow progreſs, gentlemen being very backward to offer their names as officers.

14. Marſhal Daun and the king of Pruſſia, having for ſome time watched each others motions, the former reſolved to cloſe the campaign with an action of conſequence, and marching in the dead of the night with his army towards the Pruſſian camp, he attacked it at five in the morning, at a village called Hochkerchen, with ſo much fury, that the Pruſſians were put into a total diſorder. Two of their beſt generals, field-marſhal

marſhal Keith and prince Francis of Brunſwick, were killed upon the ſpot, with about 7000 of the Pruſſian troops. The wonderful activity, however, of his Pruſſian majeſty, ſaved his army from a total defeat; and the conſequences of its ſurprize, were not ſo fatal to him as they were firſt imagined. Geo. II. 1758.

The Ruſſians retreat towards Pomerania, and beſiege Colberg, a ſmall ſeaport town upon the Baltic, by which they might have received proviſions by ſea; but though the place was very weak, the beſiegers, who were 15,000 in number, after ſpending twenty-ſix days before it in vain, were obliged to abandon their enterprize, and to evacuate Pomerania, leaving, wherever they paſſed, moſt diſmal monuments of barbarity and inhumanity.

November 10. The king of Pruſſia marches with prodigious diſpatch into Sileſia to the relief of Neiſſe, which had been beſieged by the Auſtrians; count Daun takes advantage of this march, and in concert with the army of the empire, advances towards Dreſden, where the Pruſſian armies had been greatly weakened, by ſending detachments to the king's army; ſo that the combin'd armies ſeemed upon the point of making themſelves maſters of Dreſden, which was but poorly fortified, and defended by 10,000 men under count Schmetau. But the king of Pruſſia, having obliged the Auſtrians to raiſe the ſiege of Neiſſe, ſent Schmetau orders to defend the city to the laſt extremity. Schmetau was obliged, againſt his will, to ſet fire to the ſuburbs of Dreſden, which of itſelf formed one of the fineſt cities in Europe, but when ſtanding, commanded the ramparts of Dreſden. This ſeaſonable conflagration, and the rapid advances made by the king of Pruſſia, obliges count Daun, on the

17. To abandon the ſiege of Dreſden, and to retire towards Bohemia, and from thence into winter quarters.

20. The king of Pruſſia, after croſſing Luſatia, paſſing the Elbe, and joining his troops under count Dohna and general Wedel, who had raiſed the blockade of Torgau, which had been formed by general Haddic, triumphantly enters Dreſden.

About this time the French and Hanoverian armies go by mutual conſent into winter quarters, as do the Britiſh troops in Germany.

Captain Saumarez, in the Antelope, takes the Belliqueux, a French ſhip of 64 guns mounted, and 417 men, in Lundy road, without any loſs.

23. The two houſes of parliament meet at Weſtminſter. The ſeſſion is opened by commiſſion, and the lord keeper makes

Geo. II. 1758. makes a ſpeech, acquainting the members with all the agreeable events that had happened during the courſe of the year; and recommends it to them, vigorouſly to ſupport the king of Pruſſia and the reſt of his majeſty's allies. This ſpeech produces the moſt loyal addreſſes from the two houſes.

[redacted] General Forbes having marched from Penſilvania against fort Du Queſne, is greatly harraſſed in his march by parties of the enemy's Indians. Major Grant advancing with a detachment of about 800 Britiſh, is ſurrounded by the enemy from the fort, and his men are cut to pieces or taken priſoners. But the French deſpairing to defend the fort, abandon it, and its name is changed into that of Pittſburgh, in compliment to Mr. Pitt, ſecretary of ſtate. The reduction of fort Du Queſne, which had been built upon Engliſh territory, was conſidered as of the utmoſt importance for the Britiſh intereſt in America. But the fatigues of the march, coſt general Forbes his life.

29. In the court of Exchequer, before a ſpecial jury, a Dutch ſhip, which had been ſeized for importing French brandy into the port of Hull, was adjudged to be a lawful prize. The determination of this point, put a ſtop to that pernicious practice.

December 5. Doctor Shebeare, in purſuance of his ſentence before the court of King's-Bench, for being the author of a libellous pamphlet entitled, A Sixth Letter to the People of England, ſtands upon the pillory at Charing Croſs.

6. The thanks of the houſe of commons are voted to admiral Boſcawen for the conqueſt of Louiſbourgh and the iſlands of Cape Breton and St. John, which he afterwards received in his place; and to admiral Oſborne, for the ſervices done by the fleet in the Mediterranean under his command.

The ſum total of the grants made by the committee of the ſupply for the ſervice of the year 1758, was 10,575,007 l. 7 s. 1 d. After this it was reſolved, upon motion, to grant the king 11,450 l. for augmenting the ſalaries of the judges; ſo that the whole of the grants this year amounted to 10,586,457 l. 7 s. 1 d. Of this ſum, 1,861,897 l. 4 s. 8 d. was allotted for the ſupport of the Britiſh connections upon the Continent.

January 2, 1759. Four regiments of French, by ſtratagem, make themſelves maſters of the imperial city of Frankfort, where marſhal Soubiſe eſtabliſhes his head quarters.

3. Some of the officers and ſoldiers taken at St. Cas, arrive at Portſmouth in a cartel ſhip.—The affair of the king of Portugal's aſſaſſination becomes now very ſerious, and the court

court of Liſbon mentions the ſame with the particulars as above related. On that account, a great number of perſons of the firſt diſtinction are ſeized and impriſoned; particularly the duke De Aviera; the two marquiſes of Tavora; two Joſephs, one their ſon, and one their brother; the count de Attouguia; the marquis de Alloria, and all their families. Geo. II. 1759.

An account comes, that captain Tyrrel had, between Guadaloupe and Martinico, attacked three French men of war, in his majeſty's ſhip the Buckingham, of 65 guns; and after a long engagement, in which he was himſelf wounded and his ſhip diſmaſted and diſabled, had beat them all; but the Buckingham not being able to purſue them, the French had eſcaped.

12. Her royal highneſs Anne princeſs of Orange, governante of the United Provinces, and eldeſt daughter to his Britannic majeſty, dies, leaving prince Lewis of Brunſwick acting tutor to her children, the hereditary prince ſtadtholder and the princeſs Carolina.

18. An order from the ſecretary of ſtate's office at Whitehall, is ſent down to all the ſea-ports to examine all paſſengers from Portugal, on account of the late conſpiracy at Liſbon. And all the colleges of the jeſuits, who were thought to have been at the bottom of the conſpiracy, are inveſted by troops, who cut off all communication between thoſe fathers.

19. A copy of the convention between their Britannic and Pruſſian majeſties, is preſented to the houſe of commons by Mr. ſecretary Pitt; and likewiſe another copy of a convention between his Britannic majeſty and the landgrave of Heſſe, both of them dated January 17, 1759. The firſt was only a renewal of former conventions; by the latter, 19,000 of the troops of Heſſe are to be taken into the pay of Great Britain inſtead of 12,000, the number lately employed in the Britiſh ſervice; beſides the ordinary pay of theſe troops, the ſum of 60,000 l. is allowed, in conſideration of his immenſe loſſes in ſupport of the common cauſe.

22. The earl marſhal publiſhes an order for a general mourning on account of the late princeſs of Orange, which greatly afflicts the manufacturers in Spittlefields, the lacemen, jewellers, and others concerned in fine cloaths, who had ſuffered by the long mourning the preceding year.

27. An account comes from commodore Keppel, of his having attacked and taken the iſland, forts, and garriſon of Gorce on the coaſt of Africa, about two miles in circumference, but of the greateſt importance to the Engliſh gum-

Geo. II. trade, which had lately fallen into their hands by the conqueſt
1759. of Senegal.—An account likewiſe comes, that his majeſty's
Ship the Litchfield, of 50 guns and 350 men, was ſtranded
and wreck'd on the coaſt of Barbary, with the loſs of 130
men, officers included; and that the ſurvivors were moſt in-
humanly treated by the natives.

The queen of Spain being lately dead, his moſt Ca-
tholic majeſty conceives ſuch a melancholy thereupon, that
he immures himſelf up in his palace at Villa Vicioſa, deny-
ing himſelf all pleaſure either by food or company, and with-
out ſuffering any buſineſs to be mentioned to him. By this
exceſſive indulgence of his grief, he is quite emaciated, and
contracts a ſlow fever, which afterwards puts an end to his
life.

February. This month an account comes of the execu-
tions of the perſons concerned in the attempt to aſſaſſinate the
king of Portugal, by various tortures.

16. A faſt day kept with great devotion in the cities of
London and Weſtminſter.

22. An account comes from captain Parker, of his ma-
jeſty's ſhip the Montague, of his taking a French privateer
of 20 ſix pounders and 194 men.—Captain Graves takes ano-
ther privateer of 22 guns and 202 men.—Captain Leudrick
takes two French merchant ſhips, of above 300 tuns each,
with cloathing and arms for Martinico.

His Pruſſian majeſty opens the campaign on the ſide of
Poland, ſeizes the Ruſſian magazines at Poſen, and ſurprizes
the city of Poſnania. The like operations at the beginning
of this month, commence all over Germany.

The French general Lally is repulſed at Tanjour in the
Eaſt-Indies, and beſieges Madraſs without ſucceſs.

March 1. Commodore Keppel arrives with part of his
ſquadron at Portſmouth; and tranſports, with draughts of
troops for Germany, ſail from Leith in Scotland.

7. No leſs than 17,600 weight of gum Senegal, a com-
modity, that before the reduction of Senegal by the Engliſh,
was entirely engroſſed by the French, and which the Engliſh
were obliged to purchaſe from the Dutch at a moſt extrava-
gant rate, was this day entered at the port of London, on the
Dutch account, for ſupplying the French and other nations
with that commodity.

Accounts arrive at Whitehall, that general Hobſon and
commodore Moore, had made an unſucceſsful attempt upon
Martinico; that from thence they had proceeded to Guarda-
lupe, where they reduced the town of Baſſeterre; but that

the governor and principal inhabitants had retired to the mountains. Geo. II. 1759.

10. An additional duty of 5 per cent. is laid upon all dry goods, including all East-India goods, tobacco, ſugar, grocery, and brandy, foreign ſpirits, foreign linens, and foreign paper; alſo 1s. a pound on coffee, and 9d. on chocolate; all which duties are to be applied towards paying the intereſt of the ſums raiſed, and to be raiſed, for the current ſervice of the year.—This day a violent ſtorm does great damage, particularly on the coaſt near Falmouth.

16. Lord George Sackville, commander in chief of the Engliſh forces in Germany, the marquis of Granby, general Moſtyn, and other officers, ſet out from London for that country.

The complaints of the Dutch on account of the depredations of the Engliſh, riſe now to an exceſſive height; they pretending, in fact, under the cover of the treaty of 1674, to carry on the French trade in their bottoms. But the Engliſh government juſtly reſtricting the indulgence required by that treaty to the ſame manner as trade was carried on during the time of peace, many of the Dutch ſhips are confiſcated as lawful prizes. This occaſions many appeals from the ſentences of Doctors Commons to the lords of appeal, and the Dutch are ſo much exaſperated, that they talk of making repriſals againſt the Engliſh. But a declaration is made to them, "That if either the province of Holland, "or the trading towns in it, ſhould, without the conſent of "the States General, fit out and ſend to ſea 18 or 25 ſhips "of war to protect their trade, as they had pretended, (which "they are not impowered to do by their act of union) ſuch ſhips "of war will be treated as pirates; and if the States Gene"ral ſhould ſend a fleet to ſea for the ſame pretended pur"poſe, it will be conſidered as a declaration of war." But at the ſame time the Engliſh merchants offer in the newspapers a great reward for diſcovering any perſon guilty of acts of pyracy upon the high ſeas againſt the Dutch, or any other nation; and ſeveral perſons are, upon that account, tried and condemned at a high court of admiralty, and afterwards executed.

24. Admiral Corniſh prepares to ſail to the Eaſt-Indies with three frigates, and the Lenox of 70 guns, York of 70, and Duc De Aquitaine of 60, the Falmouth of 50, and two other ſhips of the line.

27. Warrants are iſſued out for impreſſing men both for ſea and land ſervice.

Geo. II. 1759. The campaign in Germany this month goes very briſkly on, but without any remarkable advantages obtained on either ſide, excepting that the French obtained too great a [illegible].—The Dutch government appoint convoys [illegible] for their trading ſhips.

[illegible] An account comes, that the French frigate [illegible] guns and 330 men, is taken by his majeſty's [illegible]hampton and Melampe, commanded by the cap[illegible]nd Hotham.—And that his majeſty's ſhip the [illegible] Elliot, had taken the La Mignone, a French frigate of 20 guns and 143 men, of whom 70, with their captain, were killed.

4. The Dutch perceiving the firmneſs of the Britiſh government with regard to the grounds of confiſcating their ſhips, ſend three of the moſt reſpectable members of the States General, M. Boreel, M. Vander Poll, and Meerman, as miniſters to the court of Great Britain, to remonſtrate upon thoſe confiſcations, and to put the trade of the Dutch upon a better footing for the future. But though they are received with the greateſt politeneſs and diſtinction, yet they deſpair of ſucceeding in their commiſſion.

13. The houſe of commons grant ſeveral ſums of money for the better fortifying and ſecuring the towns and docks of Plymouth and Portſmouth, Milford Haven and Chatham.

Nothing of importance yet comes from the king of Pruſſia, only that he takes the towns of Schwerin and Mecklemburgh, while the Auſtrians ſurprize Greiſſinburgh.

The campaign is carried more briſkly on between prince Ferdinand and the marſhal duke de Broglio, the French general. Both parties having called in their detachments, prince Ferdinand bravely reſolving to ſtrike a blow that ſhould be deciſive of the campaign, marched at the head of his main army, conſiſting of about 30,000 men, to attack that of France, which held a very ſtrong poſt at Bergen, a village ſituated between Frankfort and Hanau. The attack was made under great diſadvantages, but with prodigious courage and intrepidity. It proved unſucceſsful. The prince of Iſemburg, the Heſſian general, was ſlain, with about 1000 of prince Ferdinand's army; but the loſs of the French was by themſelves owned to be very conſiderable, and the failure of the attack was not attended with any further bad conſequences to the allied army.—This month, prince Henry proceeds with great ſucceſs againſt the Auſtrians in Bohemia, by taking and deſtroying their magazines, and making himſelf maſter of Paſſberg,

Paſsberg, where 2000 Auſtrians and 51 officers were taken priſoners. Geo. II. 1759.

17. Captain Barrington, in his majeſty's ſhip Achilles, takes the Count St. Florentine, a French man of war of 64 guns, and 403 men, bound to Rochfort, after a cloſe engagement, in which the Achilles had only two men killed and twenty three wounded; but the French captain, and 116 of his men, were killed and wounded.

This month the king of Pruſſia intrenched his army at Landſhut in Sileſia, while his brother, prince Henry, goes on ſucceſsfully in taking or deſtroying the magazines in Bohemia, from whence count Daun drew his chief ſubſiſtence. The magazines taken and deſtroyed by prince Henry in this expedition, amounted to 35,486 tons of meal, 7,,400 loaves of bread, of 4 lb. each. In deſtroying the magazines at Buden, the wind drove the flames into the town, and intirely reduced it to aſhes, to the great grief of prince Henry, who endeavoured all in his power to extinguiſh it. Upon prince Henry's return towards Saxony, the Auſtrians and Imperialiſts every where fled before him, and the Pruſſians and Hanoverians laid Franconia under contribution.

30. Captain Faulkner, of his majeſty's ſhip Windſor, of 50 guns, takes the Duke of Chartres, pierced for 60, and had 24 twelve pounders mounted, and 294 men, 28 of whom where killed and 18 wounded; the Windſor had one killed and ſix wounded. The lading conſiſted of 60 tons of gunpowder, 150 tons of cordage, flour, ſail-cloth, wines, &c. This ſhip, with three others which eſcaped, was bound to Pondicherry.

May 7. An account comes of the death of general Hopſon at Guadalupe, and of his being ſucceeded in his command of the land troops, by general Barrington, who proceeded very ſucceſsfully in his operations for reducing that iſland.

11. An account comes, that captain Parker, of his majeſty's ſhip Brilliant, had taken a French privateer of 22 nine pounders, and 210 men.

15. A proclamation was iſſued, promiſing a reward of 5l. for every able bodied ſeaman, and 30s. for every ordinary ſeaman, or able bodied landman, who ſhall voluntarily enter on board his majeſty's navy on or before the 3d of July next.

17. A large ſupply of horſes, men, money, and ſtores to the Engliſh army in Germany, fall down to Gravelend bound to Embden. A reinforcement for the regiment of artillery

Geo. II. 1759. is on board the ſame tranſports. This month the French being greatly provoked, by the prodigious loſſes their marine had ſuſtained during the late war, make vaſt preparations upon all the coaſts of Normandy and Picardy for invading England; and no fewer than 3000 hands are ſet on work to build flat-bottom'd boats for facilitating their deſcent. This occaſions the Engliſh government to expedite the raiſing of the militia, which is now carried on with great briſkneſs and ſpirit through moſt counties of England; and the regular troops are diſpoſed of along the ſea coaſt.

21. Mr. Pitt preſented to the houſe of commons a meſſage from his majeſty, informing them, that in this critical conjuncture, emergencies may ariſe which may be of the moſt pernicious conſequences, if proper means be not immediately applied to prevent or defeat them, is deſirous that this houſe will enable him to defray any extraordinary expences of the war incurred, or to be incurred, for the year 1759, and to take all meaſures as may be neceſſary to diſappoint or defeat any enterpriſes or deſigns of his enemies, and as the exigency of affairs may require.—In conſequence of this meſſage, a million was voted to his majeſty.

26. The Arethuſe, a French frigate of 32 guns and 270 men, taken.

By letters from general Barrington, the public was informed, that on the 2d of this month, the French iſland of Guadalupe had ſurrendered to his Britannic majeſty's troops; and that, on the 6th, the iſlands of Marigallante, Granada, and St. Martins, had ſurrendered likewiſe.

June 4. The prince of Wales this day being of age, great rejoicings and demonſtrations of regard and affection for his royal highneſs and the family, are general throughout all England.

5. A French privateer of 22 guns and 187 men, taken by captain Moor of his majeſty's ſhip the Adventure.

This month the ſeveral regiments of militia are reviewed, and give great ſatisfaction.—Prince Henry of Pruſſia is, in general, ſucceſsful againſt the Auſtrians and the army of the empire; but the ſituation of his brother, the king of Pruſſia, is very doubtful on account of the progreſs of the Ruſſians.

July 1. This month the people of England are in the higheſt expectation of an invaſion from France, but are well prepared to oppoſe it; no fewer than 60,000 regular forces and militia, who are now reckoned equal regulars, being on foot in England, beſides the great armies employed in Germany and North America.

5. The

5. The French make no ſecret of their intentions to in- Geo. II.
vade England, and Havre de Grace is bombarded by admi- 1759.
ral Rodney, who deſtroys ſome of their flat-bottom'd boats and great part of the town.

The earl of Weſtmorland inſtalled, with great ceremony, chancellor of the Univerſity of Oxford.

17. His majeſty reviews, with great ſatisfaction, the regiment of Norfolk militia at Kenſington, in their march to Portſmouth.

23. An account is publiſhed by authority, that the Pruſſian general Wedel had defeated the Ruſſians; but it afterwards appears, that Wedel himſelf was defeated by the count de Soltikoff the Ruſſian general at Zulichau.

25. Fort Niagara, one of the moſt important of all the French forts in America, is taken by general Sir William Johnſon.

28. Ticonderago taken by general Amherſt.

Auguſt 1. The French army under marſhal Contades, and the ally'd army under prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, having for ſome weeks watched each other, the French are, by a maſterly diſpoſition of prince Ferdinand, decoyed to attack the ally'd army, and are totally defeated, with the loſs of above 10,000 men. This victory was gained chiefly by the valour of the Engliſh troops, of whom above 2000 were killed and wounded, and prince Ferdinand purſued the French for ſome days with great ſlaughter.

2. The city of London makes a great progreſs in the ſcheme for the intended bridge at Blackfriars.

3. Leipſic taken by the army of the empire. The king of Pruſſia's enemies now pour ſo faſt upon him from many different quarters, that he is incapable of reſiſting them every where.

4. Crown Point in America is taken by general Amherſt.

10. The Pruſſian general Wunch ſkirmiſhes with the army of the empire, and defeats one of its wings.

12. His Pruſſian Majeſty attacks the Ruſſian army at Cunnerſdorf near Frankfort upon the Oder, and at firſt has a great probability of entirely defeating them; but is afterwards defeated himſelf.

About this time the Engliſh miniſtry publiſh the inhuman orders given by the marſhal duke de Belliſle to the marſhal Contades with regard to Hanover, which fell into the hands of the Engliſh after the battle of Minden on the 1ſt.—It is publickly known, that the commander in chief of the Bri-

Geo. II. 1759.

tiſh forces in Germany is in diſgrace for his behaviour in the ſaid battle.

18. Admiral Boſcawen having long waited for the French ſquadron under De la Clue, attacks and defeats it, with great loſs to the French, and honour to himſelf. In this engagement the Ocean, one of the largeſt ſhips ever built in France, was burnt, the Temeraire, a French 74 gun ſhip, was taken; as was the Redoubtable, a 64 gun ſhip, and the Modeſte.

September 4. The princeſs Elizabeth Caroline, ſecond daughter to the late prince of Wales, dies in the 19th year of her age.

5. The army of the empire takes Dreſden from the Pruſſian general.

15. Admiral Boſcawen arrives with his ſquadron at Portſmouth.

This month a remarkable ſpirit of loyalty diſcovered itſelf in the cities of London and Weſtminſter. The city of London having opened a ſubſcription for offering certain bounties and encouragements for land ſoldiers, received his majeſty's thanks by Mr. ſecretary Pitt for the ſame, and the ſubſcription proſpers greatly.—And on the

19. 4720l. are ſubſcribed at the St. Alban's tavern for the ſame purpoſe by the gentlemen of Middleſex and Weſtminſter, who aſſemble there in conſequence of a notice from the duke of Newcaſtle, lord lieutenant of the county, for carrying the militia act into execution. This laudable example is followed by other cities and corporations in the kingdom.

This month the Engliſh fleet under Sir Edward Hawke, inſults the French fleet in Breſt, but without being able to make them hazard an engagement.

18. Quebec, the capital of the French empire in North America, is taken by the Engliſh troops commanded by general Wolfe, who loſes his life in an engagement with the French previous to the taking of the city, as does M. Montcalm, the French general. General Monkton, the ſecond in command under Wolfe, being wounded, the command falls to the honourable general Townſend, the third in command, who has the glory of forcing the city to capitulate.

26. The duke of Newcaſtle returns thanks, in his majeſty's name, to the gentlemen ſubſcribers at the St. Alban's Tavern, for raiſing men to his majeſty.

October 20. The city of London, and other parts of the kingdom, addreſs the king with compliments of congratulation on the important conqueſts of his arms. His majeſty returns a moſt gracious anſwer to the city of London's addreſs. Geo. II. 1759.

Nothing material happens this month in Germany, where all the armies watch the motions of one another, and many ſkirmiſhes happen, but generally to the advantage of the Pruſſians and their allies.

November. This month the duke de Broglio, though a young general, is appointed to command the French army in Germany. The French lie at Gieſſen, and the Hanoverians and Britiſh at Corſdorff upon the Lahn.

An account comes, that prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick is inveſted with the order of the garter.

9. Sir Edward Hawke, Sir Charles Hardy, and admiral Geary, with 28 ſail of men of war, come to an anchor at Torbay, being driven off their ſtation on the coaſt of France by ſtreſs of weather.

The intentions of the French to invade his majeſty's dominions appearing every day more manifeſt, all proper diſpoſitions, both by ſea and land, are made to diſappoint them.

11. Part of the Britiſh fleet and tranſports arrive at Spithead from North America.

14. The ſeſſion of parliament is opened by commiſſion, in a ſpeech from the lord keeper.

A great number of congratulatory addreſſes come to his majeſty from all parts of the united kingdoms.

21. A monument voted by the houſe of commons for the late general Wolfe in Weſtminſter Abby.

Great apprehenſions of the French landing in Ireland. The duke of Bedford, lord lieutenant, puts both houſes of parliament upon their guard; and ſome bankers ſtop payment. But by a ſeaſonable aſſociation of the government and the chief traders, public credit is ſupported.

An account comes, that general Amherſt had returned to Crown Point from his expedition to iſle Au Noix on lake Champlain, not being able to paſs the lake for ſtorms and tempeſts.

An account comes, that the king of the two Sicilies having ſucceeded to the throne of Spain, lands at Barcelona.

This month the French government becomes in a manner bankrupt, by ordering a ſtop to be put to the payment of all their public debts, and calling for all the plate of the kingdom to be ſent to the mint and coined,

Geo. II. Munſter is reduced by the Hanoverians.

1759. 21, 22. Admiral Hawke comes up with the French fleet under Conflans, which had ſailed from Breſt when he was blown off that coaſt, and defeats it. The ſhips which eſcape get into the river Villaine.

The king of Pruſſia, in endeavouring to cut off the retreat of count Daun to Bohemia, and to bring him to a battle, receives a ſevere check by his general Fink, and ſeveral other generals, being made priſoners of war, with all the troops under their command, amounting to about 10,000 men.

28. The hereditary prince of Brunſwick defeats the Wirtenbergers, a part of the army of the empire, at Fulda, and gains other advantages.

30. A general thankſgiving is kept for the ſucceſſes of his majeſty's arms.

Great and dangerous riots at this time prevail in Dublin.

December 5. The kings of Great Britain and Pruſſia order their miniſters to deliver to duke Lewis of Brunſwick at the Hague, a declaration to be notified to the belligerant powers, that they are diſpoſed to open a congreſs for treating about a general peace.

12. A ſubſcription for cloathing the French priſoners in England, meets with great ſucceſs.

17. A loan of eight millions agreed to by parliament, and the ſubſcription is immediately filled.

19. Captain Lawrence is executed at Execution Dock, for robbing a Dutch ſhip on the high ſeas.

24. A ſubſcription ſet on foot for the Britiſh infantry that behaved ſo gloriouſly at Minden and Quebec, and for the relief of the widows and orphans of thoſe who fell.

January, 1760. A large detachment from prince Ferdinand's army having marched to ſupport the king of Pruſſia, the Auſtrian general is forced to retire to Marburg.

Vaſt preparations for carrying on the war by ſea and land, go forward in Great Britain; and the French ſeem equally determined to retake Hanover.

20. Admiral Hawke returns to London, and his majeſty ſettles upon him and his two ſons, and the ſurvivor of them, a penſion of 2000l. a year. He likewiſe receives the thanks of the houſe of commons in his place.

22. The admirals Boſcawen and Geary, ſail from St. Helens with four large ſhips; and great promotions are made in the army.—Brigadier general Murray is made governor of Quebec.—The army in Germany go into winter quarters; the Britiſh troops into Oſnaburgh.

February

February 13. The marquis of Granby, and other general officers, arrive in town from Germany; by which the command of the Britiſh troops there devolves upon general Moyſton.—The earl of Ferrers is brought priſoner to London, being charged with the murder of Mr. Johnſon, his ſteward. Geo. II. 1760.

20. An account comes, that Mr. Lyttleton, governor of South Carolina, had undertaken a grand expedition againſt the Cherokee Indians, who had been guilty of many inhumanities againſt the ſubjects of Great Britain; and they give hoſtages for their better behaviour, and for the obſervation of a treaty, which was very much to the honour and advantage of Great Britain. But notwithſtanding all their conceſſions, when the governor retired, they broke the treaty, and renewed their barbarities with more fury than ever.

23. An account comes from Ireland, that the famous monſieur Thurot had landed a body of troops, ſuppoſed to be above 1000, at Carrickfergus, and that he had made lieutenant colonel Jennings, and four companies of major general Strode's regiment, priſoners of war, after a brave reſiſtance, and that the French poſſeſſed themſelves of the caſtle of Carrickfergus.

29. Thurot reimbarking in his three ſhips, captain Elliot, in his majeſty's ſhip the Æolus, with the Pallas and Brilliant frigates, meets with him off of the iſle of Man; and the French, though ſuperior in numbers and weight of metal, are defeated and taken; their commodore, Thurot, being killed in the engagement, which was very obſtinate.

March 1. Began the trial of lord George Sackville, who was charged with having diſobeyed the orders of prince Ferdinand at the battle of Minden; of which charge he was found guilty, and rendered incapable of ever ſerving his majeſty again in a military capacity.—About this time a great many ſkirmiſhes paſſed between the armies in Germany, but without any thing deciſive happening.

3. The Iriſh houſe of commons voted their thanks to the ſeveral captains of his majeſty's ſhips of war, who, on the 28th day of February laſt, ſignalized their courage and conduct in purſuing, defeating, and taking the French ſquadron that raſhly and fruitleſsly preſumed to inſult the coaſts of that kingdom. And on the

13.* They vote their thanks to lieutenant colonel Jennings, for his prudent and reſolute conduct againſt the French at Carrickfergus, and for preſerving Belfaſt from being plundered.—This month great ſtruggles and debates happen about the

Geo. II. 1760. the Britiſh diſtillery from corn and malt. But at laſt the prohibition upon it is taken off, though it is put under ſeveral reſtrictions.—Great embarkations are preparing for Germany.

14. Is held a day of public faſting and humiliation.—King Staniſlaus offers the city of Nancy for holding the congreſs for a general peace; which is civilly declined by their Britannic and Pruſſian majeſties.

25. His royal highneſs prince Edward having entered the 22d year of his age, is created duke of York.

29. Sir Robert Henley, lord keeper of the great ſeal, is created baron Henley of the Grange.

May 5. The earl of Ferrers, after a moſt ſolemn and auguſt trial before his peers in Weſtminſter-hall, in which lord Henley ſat as lord high ſteward, being, by them, unanimouſly found guilty, was this day carried, in his own coach, from the Tower to Tyburn, where he was hanged.

End of the TWENTY FIRST *Volume.*

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